

**THE TIMES**  
1785-1985  
**Tomorrow**

**Jacuzzi-land**  
The best of Britain's health farms  
**Heart of darkness**  
Up the Zambezi with canoe and paddle  
**Yes Prime Minister**  
Paul Eddington on playing the new man in Downing Street  
**Weekend sport**  
Preview of rugby, football, cricket tennis and four race meetings

## Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won on Tuesday by Mr A. Watter, of Sevenoaks, Kent. Today, another £2,000 can be won. Portfolio list page 16; how to play, Information Service, back page.

Tomorrow there is £2,000 worth of Portfolio prizes to be won - £20,000 in the weekly competition and £2,000 in the daily.

## 1985 boom year for home prices

House prices in 1985 increased by more than 10 per cent for the first time in five years, according to the Anglia Building Society. The society's market survey shows that on average price rises in the South are nearly two and a half times those in the North. Page 3

## General dies

Sir James Marshall-Cornwall, Britain's oldest general, has died in a nursing home in Malton, North Yorkshire, aged 98. His funeral will take place on Saturday. Obituary, page 14

## Cabinet pay gap

The Prime Minister and her Cabinet colleagues will continue to receive less than their most senior civil service advisers despite a £2,020 salary increase. Page 4

## Battle to beat schizophrenia

A recent series of articles in The Times on schizophrenia, the forgotten illness, prompted many readers to send touching accounts of their struggle to cope with it. Talkback, Page 11

## Grishin out

The purge of Kremlin dead wood continues, with Mr Viktor Grishin, Moscow's party chief, the latest to feel the Gorbachev axe. Page 5

## Baby food tests

Tests are still being made to trace the source of an outbreak of salmonella food infection which has been linked with powdered baby milk products. Page 3

## Phones watch

Three thousand telephone "watchdogs" are to be appointed by the Office of Telecommunications (OfTel) to monitor the quality of service to telephone subscribers. Page 3

## Mali bombed

Burkina Faso said its Air Force had launched a raid on a southern Malian town in a further escalation of the two-day war between the neighbouring African states. Earlier report, page 7

## Hunting blow

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals yesterday launched a campaign against fox hunting, timed to coincide with the traditional Boxing Day meets. Page 3

## Everton threat

Everton moved into contention for the first division football title, beating the leaders Manchester United on a day when second-placed Liverpool also lost. Page 18

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# Westland denies air jobs would be hit

Westland denied yesterday that thousands of British avionics firms would be jeopardized by a deal with Sikorsky, as claimed by senior government sources.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, cancelled a foreign holiday due to start tomorrow as the political struggle over the company intensified.

An improvement on the European consortium's £37 million offer of assistance is expected today as a counter to Sikorsky's "guarantee" of work.

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

The political battle over the Westland helicopter company heated up last night with a claim by senior government sources that the United Technologies-Fiat deal would jeopardize thousands of jobs in the British avionics industry. Westland quickly denied this suggestion.

The sources said that while Westland would be expected to build the airframe for the Sikorsky Black Hawk, the foundation for the bid, and while the engines would be built by Rolls-Royce, navigational and electronic equipment, missiles and radar would be held back by the Americans. Ministry of Defence sources have been saying that one third of the value of each helicopter could be lost to Britain. It has been estimated that this could amount to a loss of £2 million on each order, in terms of jobs and equipment.

Although United Technologies have refused publicly to join in the political and commercial warfare over the offer for a minority stake in Westland, corporate sources have emphatically denied the charge that they plan to turn Westland into a "metal-bashing" operation.

But Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday cancelled a family holiday in Nepal due to start tomorrow, to be on hand for the mounting campaign for the Anglo-European counter-offer.

It was said last night that British Aerospace and GEC were strong supporters of the counter-offer to defend their order-books.

One source said that apart from the 700 redundancies announced by Westland, thousands of other auxiliary jobs could be put at risk by the United Technologies-Fiat offer. "There would be firms at stake,"

Westland last night rejected suggestions that if Sikorsky won a stake in the company it would lead to only American avionics and weapons systems being fitted.

## Europeans prepare firmer work offer

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The European consortium backed by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, is likely today to improve its £37 million offer of assistance to Westland, the British helicopter manufacturer, by making a firmer offer of work for the next five years.

On Monday the directors of Westland had sought clarification of the European offer, which had been put forward as a rival to a package proposed by the American and Italian companies, Sikorsky and Fiat.

The directors raised a number of points, but one in particular concerned the quantity of work which the two groups were offering. Sikorsky had offered a "guaranteed" one million man hours over three years, while the Europeans, who are led by GEC and British Aerospace, had offered a "commitment" of 3.3 million man-hours over five years.

The Westland board says that the European "commitment" is not as firm as the Sikorsky "guarantee".

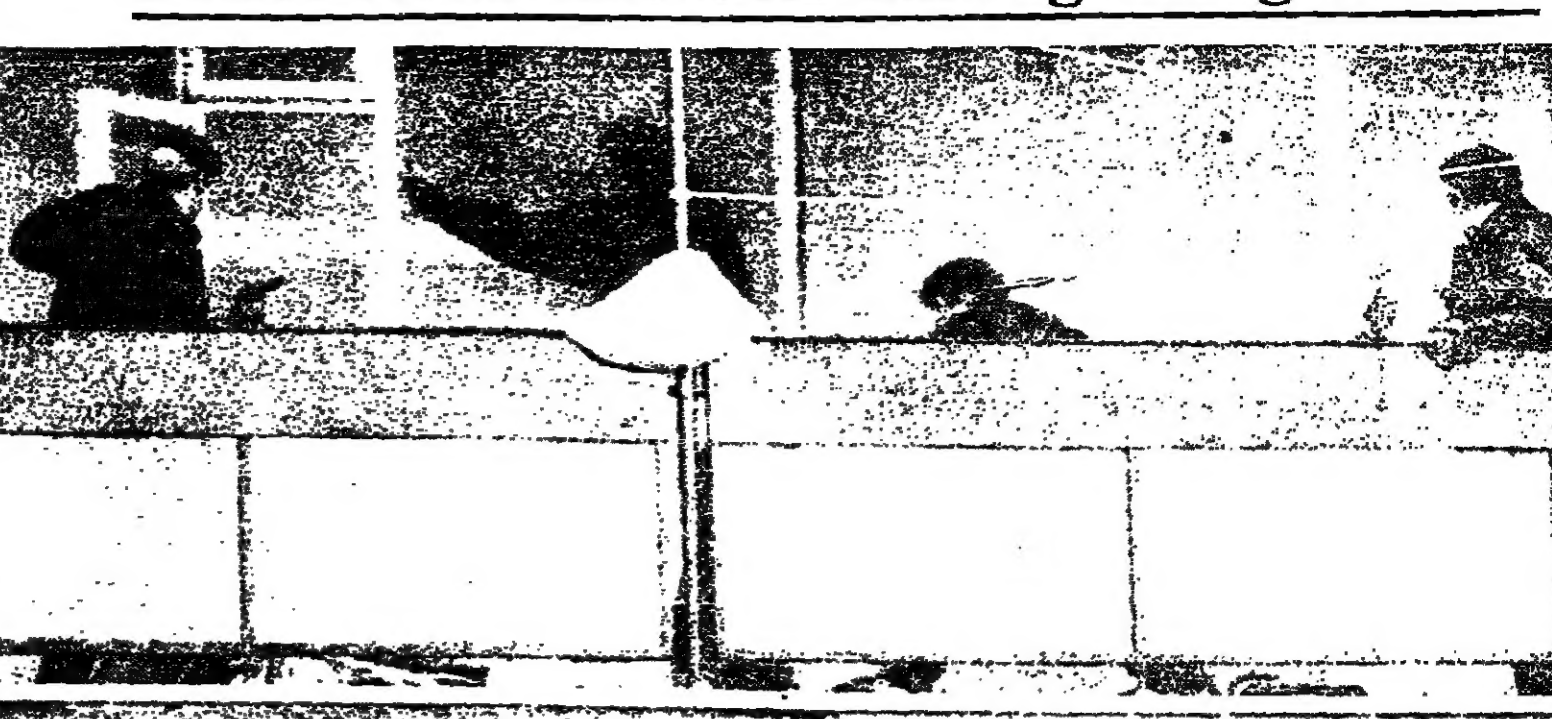
Mr David Horne, managing director of Lloyds merchant bank, acting for the European consortium, said yesterday he would be drafting a reply to the Westland questions today. He hoped it would be possible to come up with something that

would be recognized as meeting Westland's needs and as being better than the Sikorsky offer on many hours.

What appears to be in prospect is that the Europeans, while maintaining their commitment to provide 3.3 million man-hours over five years, will within that total offer something close to a firm "guarantee" of work for three years that will be larger than the man-hours guaranteed by Sikorsky.

Westland's position received a boost on Christmas Eve when it was announced in New Delhi that India was to acquire 21 Westland W30 helicopters for its off-shore oil operations. The deal is worth about £65 million, almost all of which will be financed out of British government aid.

## Police storm flat after hurling stun grenades



Officers from the Metropolitan Police tactical firearms unit breaking into the third floor flat at Northolt, Middlesex, to rescue Carlene.

## Thames Barrier raised as rain causes chaos

By Greg Neale

Temperatures fell sharply throughout most of Britain last night as wintry conditions brought chaos to the Christmas holiday period.

For southern and south-western England the cold weather came after one of the wettest Christmases on record. There was flooding in many parts, isolating a number of villages, making many roads impassable and causing widespread damage. Sporting fixtures were also disrupted.

Police warned motorists to exercise more than usual caution today as icy roads were predicted to greet many motorists returning to work after the holiday.

In Scotland and exposed parts of north-east England and East Anglia, snow was also forecast as the weekend approached. While the heavy rains were dying out last night in all but the south-eastern England, there were fears that the combination of swollen rivers and gales in the North Sea could cause further flooding.

The Thames Barrier was raised at 8pm last night as rainwater swelled the river by as much as three feet above flood in places. It was seen as the first major test for the barrier since it was opened in May 1984.

A spokesman for the Metropolitan Police Thames Division said it was hoped that raising the barrier some five hours before the high tide, at 1.38am today would keep the tide "trickling rather than roaring in".

Earlier, the Thames burst its banks in several places, as did rivers at Winterbourne, near Bristol, at Laycock in Wiltshire, at Taunton, Chard, Dulverton, Frome and Wells in Somerset.

Continued on back page, col 3

## Fund ballots should stay, says TUC

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

A future Labour government should retain political fund ballots introduced by the Conservatives, the TUC says in a report out today. But the paper also favours a law which would impose a similar democratic obligation on companies which donate money to the Conservative Party.

The call to keep the ballots contrasts with the Labour movement's initial opposition and comes after a unanimous "yes" vote from the unions which have consulted their members on retaining financial links with the Labour Party.

A consultative document sent out to all 91 TUC affiliates says: "The trade union movement's central criticism of the 1984 Trade Union Act's provisions on political funds is that the Act provides for the further regulation of unions' political activities while companies continue to be exempt from any legal restrictions equivalent to those applying to trade unions. This inequitable situation cannot be allowed to continue."

The paper calls for comments from unions which will then be summarized and presented to a special conference of senior union officials on March 19.

Other parts of the 1984 Act have also had a "significant impact" on trade unions and the report calls for an amended version of clauses which render unions liable to civil action if they do not hold secret strike ballots. The paper favours a system whereby companies or management would not have recourse to law, but union members could win an order enforcing a ballot where appropriate.

Details, page 2

## Girl rescued after 29-hour siege

Police shot a man twice as a four-year-old girl was slashed in the neck ending a siege that began on Christmas Day after the girl's mother was stabbed to death.

Errol Walker, aged 30, suffered head wounds when the police fired three shots as they stormed the west London council flat and snatched the girl, Carlene, from him.

Moments earlier he had slammed the door on them thwaring an attempt to grab him when he made a foray alone onto the third floor balcony to pick up a discarded riot shield.

Officers from the Metropolitan Police C11 tactical firearms unit smashed windows and hurled two stun grenades into the flat when he shouted he was going to stab Carlene.

The police smashed windows with their gun butts and started battering down the door. When the grenades exploded at least three officers scrambled through the shattered windows as dense smoke billowed from the flat.

Shortly afterwards Carlene



Errol Walker, carrying Carlene, talks to police.

## New crisis feared in Liverpool

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Fresh reinforcements of Militant extremists are likely to take the place of Labour's 48 Liverpool council rebels if they are disqualified from office, ministers believe. They are afraid that the result will be a new crisis in the city.

But Sir Trevor Jones, the council's Liberal leader, predicted that a local by-election in the city's Old Swan ward on January 9 could end in a "spectacular defeat" for Militant.

He believed the court hearings for the disqualification of the 48 would be finished in time for replacement elections in May which could give the Liberals an overall majority.

Although some Labour sources have suggested that as many as 100 Militants could be expelled from the Liverpool Labour Party early next year, Sir Trevor said yesterday that there was no chance of Labour shaking off its local Militant domination.

Page 2

## Museveni's warning to Kampala killers

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Mr Yoweri Museveni, leader of the National Resistance Army guerrillas who recently signed a peace pact with the Ruling Military Council in Uganda, said yesterday that his forces would take action to control the situation if the widespread killings by unruly Uganda soldiers did not stop. Speaking here after returning from south-west Uganda - which is still controlled by NRA forces - Mr Museveni said more than 60 people, including whole families, have been killed in the Kampala area since the peace agreement was signed on December 17.

On one night alone, 40 vehicles were stolen and used to carry looted goods. Even Christmas night saw heavy shooting and more loss of life in Kampala, he said.

Mr Museveni dismissed suggestions that certain "bad elements", such as former Amin soldiers, were trying to prevent implementation of the peace agreement. This was no justification for allowing killings to continue.

British aid, page 7

## Truce accord raises little hope in a bleak Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

It was, in more senses than one, a bleak, windswept Christmas in Beirut.

The Syrians, it is true, announced again that a lasting ceasefire now seemed certain in Lebanon after the Druze, Shia Muslim and Phalangist militia leaderships had reached agreement in Damascus to stop fighting - a truce to end all truces which was greeted with understandable lack of interest by the Lebanese.

A day earlier, Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, had left Beirut empty-handed, having asked for - and failed to secure - the release of the four American hostages. He travelled home on the last flight to London, talking of a "setback" in his negotiations with the Islamic Jihad kidnapers of the four abducted men but apparently determined to return.

Sadder, indeed, grimmer of all was the discovery made inside a ruined church on the rainy morning of Christmas. In the smashed building in the old commercial district near Riad Solh Square, the body of one of Lebanon's few Jewish citizens was found. He had been brutally murdered, shot three times in the head and chest after his captors had demanded the release of Shia Muslim prisoners in a jail controlled by Israel's proxy "South Lebanon Army" militia just north of the Israeli border.

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# Liverpool faces new threat of Militant disruption despite clean-up moves

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Ministers are afraid that Liverpool is heading for a new round of Militant-led local government crisis in the new year, in spite of Labour plans to take on Merseyside's Trotskyists.

Government sources believe that even if the courts disqualify Labour's 48 Liverpool council rebels from office, there are many more Militants waiting in the wings to take their place.

An they suspect that the hard core of Labour voters in the city will have been so taken in by the extremes of Militant propaganda that they will automatically replace the Labour rebels with their sideline "substitutes."

But Sir Trevor Jones, leader of the Liberal group on the council, said yesterday that he hoped for a breakthrough in the May elections.

He said that a local by-election in the city's Old Swan ward on January 9 could see Militant suffer a "spectacular defeat."

Sir Trevor also said he thought that court hearings on the disqualification of Labour's councillors, starting with a hearing in the High Court on January 13, will have been completed in time for replacement elections to be held in May.

He said that the Liberals could be in the running for 23 gains which, in addition to their current 30-strong contingent, would give them an overall majority.

But he agreed that there was no chance of Labour getting rid of the Militant domination of the local Labour party.

The Liberal leader said: "They are like clones. If Hutton was silenced in mid-sentence there are at least a dozen others who could carry on with the current 30-strong contingent, would give them an overall majority."

Some Labour sources have suggested that as many as 100 Militants could be expelled from the Liverpool Labour party early next year.

Sir Trevor said: "Militant is the Labour party in Liverpool. Kinnock is not going to clean it up by getting rid of 100 of them."

Ministers agree with that conclusion, but they also believe that Sir Trevor is being over-optimistic about his chances in the May elections; they suspect that the city is heading for a new round of crisis and confrontation in which the losers will be the 300,000 population - and Labour's national reputation.

But if the Liberals do make their hoped-for breakthrough on the crest of an anti-Militant backlash, they will be pressing a case for more government money.

Sir Trevor said: "Liverpool has had a raw deal. They have got to give us more money. If not, they're in for a bumpy ride."

As part of his anti-Militant campaign, Mr Alistair Graham, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA), has called for a secret ballot to elect officials to the union's biggest branch in the Department of Health and Social Security, Newcastle (Our Labour Reporter writes).

The branch officials, who led the abortive stoppage at the department, are elected at the annual general meeting where only a "couple of hundred" members might attend out of a total of 3,000, Mr Graham said.

Writing in the current issue of *Red Tape*, the union's newspaper, Mr Graham said that secret ballots should be held in all CPSA branches.

## Drink-drive campaign has limited success

The huge police clampdown on drink-driving over Christmas appeared to be having only limited success up to yesterday.

Early figures from forces around Britain showed many drivers were willing to risk losing their licence, in spite of more police on traffic duty and a vigorous publicity campaign. However, some counties showed a drop in the number of positive breath tests compared with 1984, evidence that some motorists heeded the warnings.

In Avon and Somerset, 101 drivers were arrested under the drink-driving laws between December 15 and December 23, compared with 114 in the same period last year.

In South Wales, there were 77 positive tests over the 10 days, compared with 90 in 1984. Drivers in rural Norfolk were on their best behaviour. A police spokesman said there were only five positive breath tests on Christmas Eve and just one on Christmas Day.

It was a different story in Sussex, with 16 positive tests on Christmas Eve.

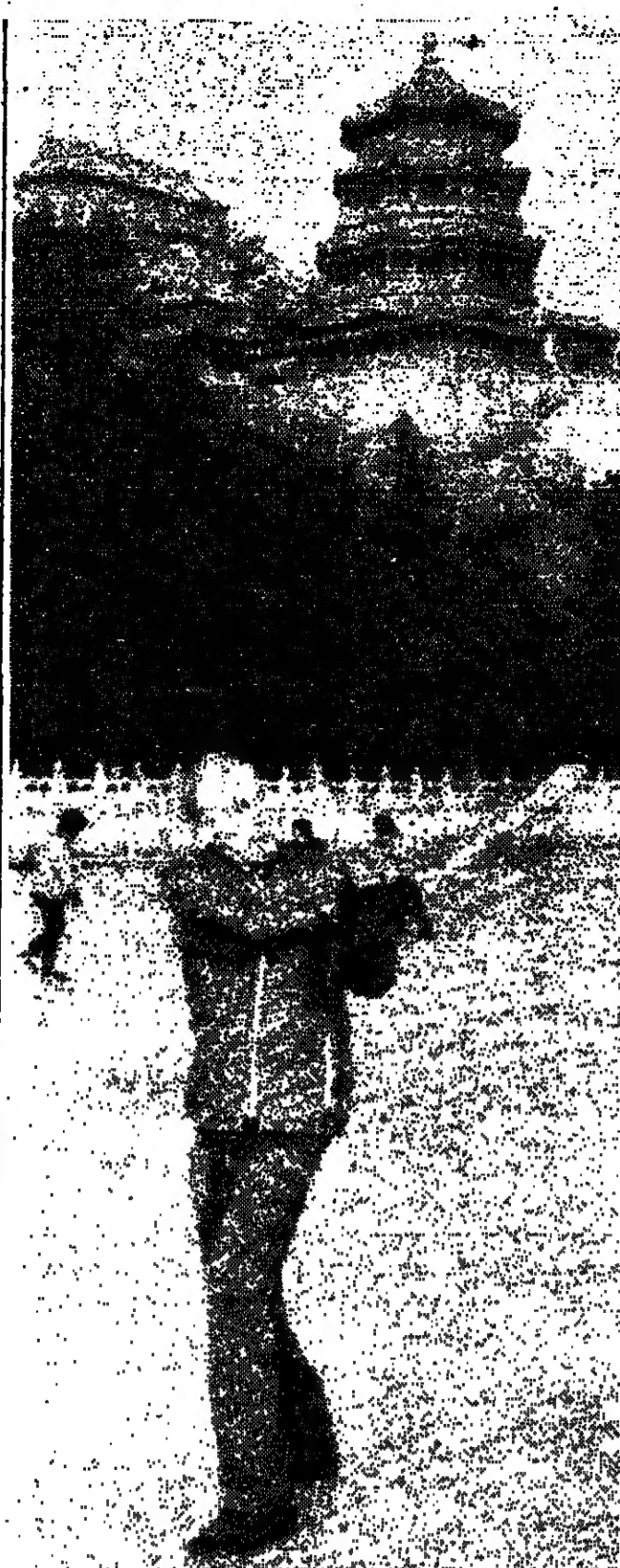
Overall, 342 drivers have been arrested since the beginning of December, and Mr Roger Birch, Chief Constable of Sussex, said: "Too many motorists are prepared to take a chance."

In Sussex, 22 per cent of those breath-tested were above the legal limit, compared with Nottinghamshire, where only 9 per cent of tests proved positive - 77 drivers out of 2,500 stopped.

Britain's largest force, the Metropolitan Police, said that figures would not be available until the new year, and only one of Scotland's regions, Strathclyde, had any statistics. It reported 10 positive breath tests and one driver refusing to give a sample; the same figures as last year.

This Christmas has seen more police on traffic duty than in 1984, when numbers were stretched by the miners' strike.

Mr Birch, who is co-ordinating the national campaign, said he believed this year's "clear, unequivocal message" not to drink and drive, from the Department of Transport, was an improvement on 1984.



Sir Richard Evans, British Ambassador to China, hits out during an impromptu cricket match yesterday on the frozen lake of Peking's Summer Palace. A Boxing Day celebration is an annual event for British residents

## 19 injured by gas cylinder set off in public house

Nineteen people were treated in hospital for eye and throat irritation after a gas cylinder was discharged on Christmas Eve in a crowded public house in Kendal, police in Cumbria disclosed yesterday.

None of the casualties was detained. Police inquiries were continuing yesterday into the origin of the cylinder which contained an "irritant type" gas.

Elsewhere Christmas festivities were also marred by violence.

Monmouth: Eight men were remanded in custody by Pontypool magistrates yesterday after disturbances in Monmouth, in which a police van was overturned and several shop windows smashed.

Littlehampton: Scores of drunken youths screaming "Kill the Bill" were involved in a Christmas Eve brawl outside a public house in Littlehampton, West Sussex, in which one policeman was severely injured and several others were hurt. (Police Constable Colin Walker, a dog handler, was punched in the face and kicked to the ground.)

Brighton: Doctors have operated on Mrs Alison Middleton, aged 24, who suffered a serious eye injury when she was struck in the face with a glass at a public house in Brighton, Sussex, on Christmas Day; a woman aged 24 has been charged in connection with the incident.

A boy aged 15 who was stabbed in the stomach early on Christmas Day in Brighton is recovering in hospital. Police have interviewed four men and they have been granted bail pending further inquiries.

Scarborough: Detectives are investigating an incident at a discotheque after the death of Mr John Wrona, aged 34, the manager. Mr Wrona collapsed on Christmas Eve and was taken to Scarborough Hospital where he died early on Christmas Day.

Bradford: Police launched a murder inquiry after the discovery of a man's body in a flat in Bradford, early yesterday.

Bristol: Police were last night hunting the hit-and-run driver who killed special Policewoman Nancy Lloyd, aged 21, who was knocked down by a motor-cycle near her home in Stockwood, Bristol, on Christmas Eve.

As she lay injured in the road, two cars swerved around her but a third, a dark-coloured Ford Cortina Mark IV, drove over her and failed to stop.

A man stabbed his wife to death and then hanged himself as two of couple's teenage children wrapped family Christmas presents unaware of their parents' deaths. The bodies were found when a third child arrived home on Christmas Eve after buying gifts for the family.

The police said yesterday: "We are treating this as murder but no other person is being sought."

The couple who died were Mrs Joan Gardner, aged 39, who was stabbed in a bedroom of the house at Cwmnaerbren, Treherbert, Mid Glamorgan, and Mr Peter Gardner, aged 41, unemployed who was found hanged from a rafter.

A policeman said that post-mortem examinations had been carried out and the coroner had been informed.

## Key voters on Labour mailing list

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Key voters in up to 130 marginal constituencies are to be targeted by the Labour Party for a new year experiment in direct mail publicity and propaganda "shots."

Mr Steven Billcliffe, the party's fund-raiser, has been appointed publishing and marketing manager; it was announced yesterday.

Mr Billcliffe's talent for raising money through direct mailings to potential, and known, supporters is to be turned to political marketing.

In the run-up to the next general election Mr Billcliffe will use direct mail techniques on targeted groups of voters.

His appointment will disturb party traditionalists, who argue that Labour should not be treated like a soap powder.

But it will be Mr Billcliffe's job to build up mailing lists for significant numbers of "floating" voters in marginal constituencies and to communicate directly in an attempt to sell Labour's policies and image.

Direct mailing will enable the party to by-pass the media. Although Labour will start without the computerized advantage built up by the Tories and Alliance, who have used the technique for some years.

## Post deal passes deadline

The deadline for a union deal to produce News International's new London Post at Wapping, east London, from next March, expired on Christmas Eve with no sign of agreement (Our Labour Reporter writes).

Only the electricians, out of five print unions, have indicated an interest in signing a legally-binding no-strike deal with the company, but they have been warned against going it alone by Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC.

Meanwhile Mr Harry Conroy, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, said last night that any request for support from production unions taking industrial action at the company's four existing Fleet Street titles would receive a sympathetic hearing. But no such request had yet been received.

Both the National Graphical Association and Sogat have added a "jobs for life" demand to a pay and conditions claim at *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun* and *News of the World*. The original claim was registered in October, but the clause calling for a jobs guarantee was included this week.

In expectation that the demand will be rejected by the company, the NGA and Sogat are planning strike ballots in mid-January.

## Britain 'on the brink of industrial sex change'

Britain is on the brink of a major industrial sex change, the new leader of one of Britain's biggest unions forecast today. Jobs traditionally done by women look like expanding and male-dominated work looks like diminishing, Mr John Edmonds, new leader of the General Municipal, Boilermakers Union said.

He succeeds Mr David Bassett as general secretary on new year's day. Mr Edmonds said: "Many jobs in the growth areas are going to be occupied by women."

"It looks as if these are going to expand and those jobs undertaken mainly by men are going to diminish. So there is going to be a shift in the working population."

Mr Edmonds, aged 41, who has a wife and two daughters, has been responsible for public service workers for nearly three years.

## 'Pragmatic' consultative document

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The TUC has called for a "broad social consensus" on future employment legislation in a highly pragmatic consultative document sent to its 91 affiliates. It attacks the Government for the introduction of "unjust" and "hostile" Labour law but avoids calls for wholesale repeal by a future Labour government.

An obvious response to a perceived change in mood among trade unionists engendered by the statutes and by economic circumstances, the document is being circulated ahead of a TUC advisory conference on industrial relations legislation scheduled for March 19. It also seems to set the seal on the meeting of senior trade union officials in early February to review policy on accepting state aid for ballots.

Both the engineering and electricians' unions appear to have defied successfully the present embargo on accepting such financial aid. The document will serve to reinforce their stand by offering "free-post" or a TUC body to administer any available government money.

More in particular, the paper concedes that the Trade Union Act 1984, which enforces strike ballots, secret votes for union executives and ballots on the political levy, has had a "significant impact."

It seeks to modify the strike vote provision however, by proposing that future legislation on the subject should not allow employers to take legal action against unions where disruption is not backed by a vote. Instead it proposes that a statutory code of conduct should be introduced enabling union members to complain to an unspecified body which would have the power to adjudicate.

On the issue of a positive "Bill of rights" for trade unionists which has been backed by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, the document is cautious. It suggests that it may be wrong to pose the argument sharply in terms of "rights" or the traditional "immunities" which have protected trade union from civil action. Perhaps the movement's lawyers should concentrate on finding clear definitions of the boundaries between the concepts which would stand up in a court of law, the paper says.

The document concedes that while union leaderships have not for the most part encouraged closed shop ballots under the Employment Acts of 1980 and 1982, such ballots taken place at local level were both parties have been anxious that the membership agreements should continue. Generally employers have adopted a "wait and see" approach, the memorandum says.

The present TUC consultation exercise was set in train by Congress in September with a call for a review of legislation which should be carried out by the TUC-Labour Party Liaison Committee in time for next year's Congress.

Resolutions also specified the need to examine the scope for self-policing arrangements, a Bill of rights for working people including new protections on unfair dismissal, statutory support for union recognition, representation rights, additional provision for trade union facilities at the workplace and an extended role for the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

A step-by-step approach to any future law is counselled by the paper in line with the tactics of the present government. Unions are warned not to minimize options too soon before the next general election.

The law is now inextricably linked with industrial relations, the document concedes, but it calls for a more liberal frame-

## Historic theatre is damaged by fire

The 120-year-old New Tyne Theatre in Newcastle upon Tyne, badly damaged in a fire, on Christmas Day, will be reopened by late next year.

The fire is a blow to theatre in the North-east. Touring companies were due to stage productions from next March, with Newcastle's Theatre Royal about to close up for two years for £5.5 million of improvements.

Mr Jack Dixon, its chairman, said: "This was to have been the year of the New Tyne Theatre." The cause of the blaze at the grade one listed building and a former cinema was unknown, he added.

Seventeen buses were damaged on Wednesday in a fire at Southall Bus Depot, west London, which police believe was started deliberately.

More than £25,000 of damage was caused by a fire in the garage of a house owned by Judge Blomfield in Fritsham, near Newbury, Berkshire, on Christmas Day. Police believe an arsonist was responsible.

Judge Blomfield, aged 68, has been a circuit judge, recently based at Reading Crown Court, since 1969 and is a former Berkshire County Court judge.

"My garage was set on fire and so was my car parked in the drive. When two separate things catch fire in the way these did somebody must have been responsible," said the judge.

"The garage does not adjoin the house but it is very near and if it had spread anything could have happened."

A girl aged two who died in a Christmas Day blaze at her home was named as Leanne Gallacher yesterday.

Her sister Lisa, aged six months, and three teenage girls were treated for shock and the effects of smoke. Strathclyde police said the fire was not being treated as suspicious.

## Euro poll doubts by Labour

Labour Party frontbenchers have started informal discussions about the possibility of cutting the European Parliament down to size by repealing direct elections (Our Political Correspondent writes).

Mr George Foulkes, a shadow spokesman on foreign affairs, said yesterday: "The party is still in the process of formulating its policy on Europe, to be included in the next election manifesto."

"But because of the frequent clashes between the European Parliament and other Community institutions, MPs have started to ask what role the European Parliament actually fulfils."

"Many of the Euro MPs seem to have time on their hands, with little real function to perform."

"A number of Labour MPs have asked if the cause of Europe might not actually be advanced by returning to the previous system, where it was possible to nominate experts to serve in the European Parliament."

Mr Foulkes, who is working with a frontbench colleague, Mr George Robertson, in preliminary discussions with party headquarters staff, said that they were considering whether it was practical or realistic to go back on international agreements and repeal direct elections legislation, which first took effect in 1979.

## House into home

A Victorian house of correction, built at Fordingham, Lincolnshire, in 1825, is being converted for use as a self-catering holiday home for American tourists.

The Times overseas selling prices

Australia	£25	Belgium	£15	Canada	£15
France	£15	Germany	£15	Italy	£15
Japan	£15	Netherlands	£15	Portugal	£15
Spain	£15	Sweden	£15	Switzerland	£15
USA	£15	West Germany	£15	Other	£15

## Victoria's crowning glory

A £40m "jewel in the crown of Queen Victoria" will be unveiled in March when the Queen will open the magnificently restored Queen Victoria building in Sydney.

Built as a market late last century in the heart of Sydney, the towering Waverly sandstone building has been transformed into a memorial to Victorian England.

Threatened with demolition in the 1970s, conservationists and the city council stepped in. For the past two years British craftsmen have created a dazzling showcase of memorabilia for the new galleries, foyers and arcades.

"We believe it will stand as one of the greatest monuments to the Victorian age this country and become a world tourist attraction," Mr Neil Galsner, promotions director said.

Mr Galsner, a retired Sydney businessman and admirer of Queen Victoria, said that the scheme had attracted criticism from Australians with republican sympathies.

Mr Galsner was in Britain to find two authentic statues of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert to place outside the building. He flew to India after officials told him there was a statue of Queen Victoria in New Delhi.

He also expected a "royal clock", made by the old-established London firm of Thwaites and Reed. It will hang in the upper gallery.

Standing 17-ft high and weighing more than a tonne, the clock features a moving tableau of England's royal history, with intricate figures carved by Mr Dennis Morton.

The scenes include King Canute, the Battle of Hastings, King John and the Magna Carta, the execution of King Charles I, King Henry VIII surrounded by his wives, and



Mr Dennis Morton with his Battle of Hastings sculpture, part of the 17ft "royal clock" for Sydney's Queen Victoria Building (Photograph: Dod Miller)

THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING MORE SCANDALOUS THAN D.H. LAWRENCE'S NOVELS. HIS LIFE.



Was DH Lawrence's affair with Frieda Weekley a great love story or just a great scandal? Helen Mirren stars as Frieda Weekley, Kenneth Branagh as Lawrence, in Alan Plater's "Coming Through"

TONIGHT AT 9.00PM ON ITV



CENTRAL



## House prices 'rise by 10% with boom in the South'

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

House prices in the past year increased by more than 10 per cent for the first time in five years, the Anglia Building Society, said.

The figures, compared with the 8 per cent to 9 per cent average rise forecast by other organizations, show an average increase of 10.2 per cent since 1984, the highest annual rise recorded by the society since 1980.

"With demand steadily increasing and mortgage lending reaching record levels, I think we can expect an even larger increase in house prices next year," Mr Tony Stoughton-Harris, Anglia's chief general manager, said.

Anglia's *Housing Market 1985*, published today, suggests that boom conditions prevailed in parts of the south of England, with price rises of up to 22 per cent, while in the North, Scotland and Ireland, prices remain depressed. On average, rises in the South were nearly two and a half times those in the North.

The biggest new housing development has been sheltered housing for the elderly, with an almost insatiable demand in most large towns. Anglia believes this market will increase further.

Average % house price rise during 1985 in England

	New	1985	1984
North-west	5.3	3.35	
W Mid	8.75	7.75	8.8
South-west	8.87	9.82	2.44
NE Mid	10.0	10.0	9.0
NE	7.32	4.58	
E Mid	8.5	11.77	10.9
E Anglia	12.27	18.74	12.43
S Mid	15.0	12.0	10.0
London and SE	18.08	15.77	15.7
South	12.85	14.1	13.76

Insufficient sample

Mr Stoughton-Harris said that this trend could mean a better deal for homebuyers. "Our research clearly shows that many elderly people are keen to give up their large family houses in favour of smaller, serviced homes where some of their everyday needs are taken care of and they can benefit from the companionship of shared facilities and the security of wardened supervision, while maintaining their independence in a home of their own."

Increasing numbers of much-needed family homes would be released. "This will inevitably have a knock-on effect down the housing ladder, with more property becoming available for all classes of buyer. In the longer term, the result could be a more efficient use of the housing stock."

Mr Peter Moreton, Anglia's chief surveyor, said that within general inflation set to fall and the likelihood of tax benefits in a pre-election period, the housing market was set for another buoyant year.

Mr Moreton warned house buyers about the advisability of independent surveys. He said that Anglia's valuers analysed common defects. "Most of these defects if neglected could lead to a rapid decrease in a property's market value and purchasers ignore them at their peril."

Only 10 per cent of buyers had an independent survey, he said. "We can only stress the wisdom of seeking advice before entering into any contract to purchase. The average price of a house now exceeds £30,000. A survey costing £100 to £200 must surely be a wise investment."



The Enfield Hunt at Brockett Park, Hertfordshire, yesterday, before heavy rains forced cancellation of the meeting (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

## RSPCA to toughen stand on fox hunting

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals yesterday launched a campaign against fox hunting, timed to coincide with the traditional Boxing Day meets.

The society has issued a leaflet and a booklet explaining the RSPCA's reasons for opposing the sport.

"The society has been unequivocally opposed to fox hunting since 1971, but this is the first time we have expressed our views so firmly," a spokeswoman said. The Society wanted to correct misunderstandings about its views on the subject, she added.

From 1958 to 1971 the society had opposed all hunting except fox hunting. "In 1971 it was finally recognized that opposition to fox hunting as well as all other sports of hunting was the only logical stance for a society which attempted to prevent cruelty to animals."

The RSPCA was not entering the arena of direct action, violent demonstration or unlawful campaigning. It had been instrumental in animal welfare legislation for the past century, and hoped to achieve the eventual abolition of fox hunting by the same method.

A spokesman for the Masters of Fox Hounds Association said the key to wild animal welfare was "the preservation of habitat in the countryside".

He said the RSPCA's campaign would not succeed in getting hunting banned. If it did, however, it would simply replace an organized cull of the fox population, which was open to inspection, with the brutal anarchy that no one could monitor or control.

"Britain has the largest, healthiest fox population of any country in Europe and it has more organized fox hunting than any other country in the world," he said.

"Hunting with hounds offers the swiftest and most humane method of controlling the fox

## Baby food tests continue

By Gregory Neale

Tests were continuing yesterday to trace the source of salmonella food infection linked with powdered baby milk products.

On Tuesday, it was announced that a baby had died in Manchester showing traces of salmonella, although pneumonia is now believed to have been the cause of death. Laboratory tests are continuing to try to identify the exact strain of bacteria.

Food scientists at the Farley factory in Kendal, Cumbria, spend Christmas checking for any infection.

Farley's asked people last week to destroy any Oster Feed, Oster Milk, Complete Formula, Oster Milk Two and the milk-based nutritional supplement Complan, after a statistical link was suggested

between the baby foods and 41 cases of salmonella, 29 involving babies.

No further cases of the infection among babies have been reported since.

In the case of the baby which died at Booth Hall hospital, north Manchester, last week, samples have been sent to the public health laboratory in Colindale, north London.

The hospital said yesterday that preliminary medical opinion after post mortem examination was that the premature baby died from pneumonia.

Manchester's medical officer for environmental health, Dr Michael Painter, said: "Preliminary laboratory tests have raised the possibility that the salmonella isolated may be of the same type as that thought to be associated with the consumption of some milk-based baby foods, but at this stage we

cannot be certain of that, either."

At Farley's factory in Kendal, samples from machinery were being examined by the company's microbiologists. Samples from the 320 workers were also being tested at the public health laboratory in Preston, where staff also worked through the Christmas holiday.

All tests have proved negative.

Mr Mike Tait, factory manager, said that all staff returning today and on Monday would be searching for any possible source of infection.

Farley's headquarters in Plymouth said that some people had returned packet tops from Oster Milk products, and money would be refunded. Farley's emphasized that no risk had been attached to their cereal products, including Farley's Rusks.

## 3,000 'watchdogs' to monitor Telecom

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

A national network of about 3,000 telephone "watchdogs" is to be set up by the Office of Telecommunications (OfTel) next spring to monitor the quality of the services provided by British Telecom.

The network is one of a number of ideas contained in a paper to be published early next month by OfTel, which has become increasingly concerned that it should be able to monitor Telecom's customer services independently.

Complaints to OfTel are running at 1,000 a month, and half concern disputed telephone bills. OfTel, which took over from the Post Office Users' National Council (Ponc) as the telephone consumer watch-

dog, wants to set up reliable and frequent checks embracing all areas of Telecom's network, including public payphones, maintenance, operator service, customer accounts, and the frequency of wrong numbers.

The checks will, for the first time, enable OfTel to prepare its own independent statistics. To date, the consumer group and Ponc have had to rely on information published by Telecom which, since privatization, no longer publishes such data.

OfTel will also conduct regular opinion surveys to gauge subscriber attitude to Telecom services. The OfTel team will be attached to the post and telecommunications advisory committees.

## Revolution in house-buying: 1

### Solicitors keep monopoly grip

The severe restrictions imposed on the powers of building societies and banks to offer a conveyancing service to house buyers, contained in the Government's recently published Building Societies Bill, is the latest indication that the promised revolution in house-buying has a long way to go to replace the present system with open competition.

To free conveyancing from its solicitors' monopoly was the intention of Austin Mitchell's private member's Bill, which the Government then embraced in its own proposed legislation, last year. It is clear, however, that powerful lobbying by lawyers found sympathetic ally in Lord Hailsham of St. Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, the Bill, published earlier this year, prevents building societies and banks from offering a conveyancing service to customers to whom they are also giving a loan.

That effectively ends the matter for the time being, for such institutions see little point in offering conveyancing to customers getting loans from someone else. Mr Roy Cox, chairman of the Building Societies Association, expressed disappointment at the decision "because we were hoping to be allowed to offer conveyancing for our own borrowers as part of a one-stop house-buying package".

The Consumers' Association

It is two years since Mr Austin Mitchell, MP, introduced a Bill designed to end the solicitors' monopoly of conveyancing and open up house transaction to competition. In a two-part series, CHRISTOPHER WARMAN concludes how the proposed reforms have fared and looks at changes in the world of property.

tion, which was closely involved with Mr Mitchell's original Bill, said the Government had reneged on its promises. It took comfort, however, from the fact that the restriction was not enshrined in the Government's Bill, but included in rules laid down by the Lord Chancellor, having hopes that the rules could be changed after Lord Hailsham steps down.

Government reasoning that the restriction was necessary to prevent a conflict of interest, reflected an argument put forward by the Law Society, which was not surprisingly delighted with the decision.

Although the legislation allowing the establishment of licensed conveyancers has received the Royal Assent, the proposed council for licensed conveyancers, which will have overall responsibility for all aspects of the regulation of licensed conveyancers, has not yet been appointed by the Lord Chancellor.

In its absence, the new conveyancing standing committee, which has the task of producing reforms to conveyancing practice within two

years, has begun work without a user-solicitor among its members.

In spite of the obstacles in the way of reform of the conveyancing process, there is evidence that the threat of competition, if not yet its reality, has had an effect on solicitors. They have begun to respond to public demand for a better, and if possible a cheaper service.

A spokeswoman for the Law Society is convinced that increased competition has already led to reduced charges by solicitors. "Solicitors are pleased to compete on fair terms with others. They will compete on price, standards, back-up and they provide a service which is underwritten by a strict code of ethics. Solicitors provide the public with a 'de luxe' service," she said defiantly.

A new solicitors' network, The Homebuyers Group, is to be launched next month. A heavy advertising and marketing campaign will encourage people to make more use of their solicitors.

Tomorrow: estate agents

## Stores braced for price war on video tapes

A price war on pre-recorded video tapes is expected in the wake of Christmas sales of video tape recorders. Half the families in Britain now rent or own a recorder (Our Technology Correspondent writes).

The demand for video entertainment in 1986 and beyond should exceed even our most optimistic forecasts, if video distributors are willing to adapt to market change," Mr Vic Watkins, managing director of Rank Video Services, said.

Rank has built a £2.5 million duplicating plant in west London that it claims is one of the most technically advanced in Europe.

Families with videos (%)	Scotland	North	Wales	Midlands	South
Family video player	56	43	48	48	48
Separate TV for children	51	52	41	40	38
Children with separate record cassette players	65	60	55	61	56

Source: Gallup/Woolworth Family Leisure Survey (End of summer 1985 figures)

Last autumn Woolworth launched its own range of pre-recorded tapes retailing almost as cheaply as blank ones, at about £7, and including such classics as *The Bells of St Mary's*, *High Noon* and *The Three Musketeers*.

A Gallup/Woolworth survey last summer concluded that children were the main users of the video in almost three out of ten homes owning one, with parents making most use of it in nearly a quarter.

"Men appear to be about twice as likely as their wives to be the main user of the family video," the survey found.

Permission for similar tests is now about to be sought from the Department of Health by the Wellcome Foundation in London.

Laboratory tests have shown that the compound, known in Britain as BW A509U, and in America as AZT, stops the AIDS virus from multiplying. But it has not yet been shown whether the compound has the same effect on patients infected with the virus.

The compound would be given to British patients to establish what sort of dose could be tolerated. A further trial would then be necessary to see how effective it was against the AIDS virus.

It could be several years before all the necessary tests are completed to show that the compound is not only effective, but has no side effects.

The first British patients could be given the drug in February, if the Department of Health gives the necessary approval.

## 'Promising' new drug for Aids

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

A small number of British patients suffering from the acquired immune deficiency syndrome, Aids, are likely to be treated with a "promising" new drug early next year.

The compound has been developed in the United States by the British-owned pharmaceutical company, Burroughs-Wellcome, and the first phase of clinical trials, involving a few patients, has begun in the United States.

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7' x 5' £2,750	6' x 4' £49	9' x 6' £490
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# Ministers' pay lags behind top officials despite rise

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister and the Cabinet will continue to be paid less than most senior Civil Service advisers, in spite of a £2,000 increase on Wednesday. Pay differentials, ranging at present from 13 per cent to 47 per cent extra for officials, will move down slightly.

But Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet and head of the home Civil Service will receive £18,125 more (40 per cent) than Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who will draw the Commons Cabinet salary of £45,000.

Under proposals announced by the Government in 1983, Mrs Thatcher is entitled to £56,120 from next week. However, it is assumed in Whitehall that she will continue to forego some of the increase to set an example.

That example was spectacularly ignored by the Prime Minister last summer, when she sanctioned staged pay increases of up to 46 per cent for senior Civil Servants, the judiciary and senior officers in the Armed Forces.

The top people's pay package put more than 200 officials, officers and judges so far ahead of their political masters and legislators that it is highly unlikely they will ever catch up.

	Now	Jan 1
Prime Minister (national)	£53,600	£56,120
Lord Chancellor (national)	£44,500	£47,100
The Speaker	£44,500	£47,100
Cabinet Minister (Commons)	£42,980	£45,000
Cabinet Minister (Lords)	£33,250	£35,850
Minister of State (Lords)	£29,000	£31,600
Minister of State (Commons)	£33,500	£36,100
Chief Whip	£37,580	£40,180
Deputy Chief Whip	£33,580	£36,180
Leader of Opposition	£40,310	£42,910
Opposition Chief Whip	£33,580	£36,180
MP	£16,904	£17,702

(Commons ministers' reduced parliamentary salary of £12,782 included)

## Labour attacks Thatcher broadcast to Falklands

The Prime Minister was accused by a Labour spokesman of "flipping her lid" on the Falklands over the Christmas holiday (Our Political Correspondent writes).

The further bout of political abuse was provoked by Mrs Margaret Thatcher's Christmas Day broadcast to the Falkland Islands, in which she repeated her condemnation of allies who had supported last month's United Nations General Assembly resolution calling for talks between Argentina and Britain.

Mrs Thatcher said in her message: "We are committed to protecting your right to determine your own future. It is one of the fundamental principles of the United Nations and I regret that at the recent general assembly so many of our friends proved unwilling to face up to the real issues at stake."

Mr George Foulkes, an Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, said that the Prime Minister should apologise for her insulting remarks. "She seems finally to have flipped her lid," he said.

Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, said: "Instead of using, or abusing, Christmas for a controversial political message the Prime Minister should ask herself why friendly governments of the United States, France and Italy voted against us." The UN resolution was carried by 107 votes to four.

## The Queen finds good news among the gloom

The Queen concentrated on the "good news" in her Christmas message on Wednesday.

The television broadcast showed her sitting at her desk in Buckingham Palace with several newspapers in front of her. She said: "Looking at the morning newspapers, listening to the radio and watching television, it's only too easy to conclude that nothing is going right in the world."

The Queen said that throughout the year there seemed to have been nothing but bad news, with a constant stream of reports of aircraft crashes, earthquakes, volcanoes and famine. As if natural disasters were not enough, there were also riots, wars, acts of terrorism and, generally, news of man's inhumanity to man.

"It used to be said that, 'No news is good news', but today you might well think that, 'Good news is no news'."

But there was a lot of good news and some wonderful things were going on in spite of the frightening headlines.

The Queen said that among those receiving awards might be an outstanding doctor who had worked for years in a deprived area. Or there might be a voluntary worker who had given nearly 40 years to campaigning for the disabled, a nurse whose care for her patients for more than 30 years was a splendid example of the work done by members of a dedicated profession, or a WRVS volunteer who had devoted a large part of her life to others.

Then there were those who had shown courage and devotion to duty, such as two firemen who had been called to a blazing ship. They knew there were casualties below decks and, although both injured themselves, risked flames and smoke and further explosions to bring the casualties to safety.

But these were not exceptional cases. "Every individual brings stories of bravery and self-sacrifice, like the members of bomb disposal teams whose cool courage saves so many lives."

The Queen said she saw more such people in Britain, but as she often held investitures in other Commonwealth countries she knew there were people making the same sort of good news all over the world.

But while bravery and service to the community were recognized by honours and awards, there were many ways in which people could make good news.

People who had helped their companies to success had also come to the Palace as winners of the Queen's awards for export and technology. They included a darts-making firm



The Dean of Windsor with Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones at the Christmas Day service attended by the Queen and other members of the Royal Family at Windsor Chapel (Photograph: Julian Herbert).

with only five employees which exported to 40 countries.

"They were so enterprising that they introduced the game of darts into places where it

had never been played," the Queen said. There were many more examples. These success stories, so often pushed into the background, were the guarantee of the future.

"Christmas is a time of good news. I believe it is a time to look at the good things of life and to remember that there are a great many people trying to make the world a better place."

"There's a lesson in this for us all and we should never forget our obligation to make our own individual contributions, however small, towards the sum of human goodness," she said.

The Pope's message, page 14

## Swift victory eludes Duarte despite massive aid by US

From John Carlin, San Salvador

The Salvadorean armed forces have grown more than four times in size and become immeasurably more professional since civil war broke out six years ago, but the left wing guerrillas, whose military capacity has increased less dramatically, remain far from beaten.

Two years ago the guerrillas of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) were rampant. The Government's backers in Washington feared the collapse of a badly demoralized army.

But a Duarte electoral victory in May 1984 assured vast increases in American military aid, rapidly reversing the trend of the war. Earlier this year the 50,000-strong army and its ever-present team of American advisers appeared to believe the destruction of the FMLN was imminent.

Today neither side is talking of outright victory. "Prolonged War", the guerrillas' revolutionary recipe, is a fate even President Duarte - the eternal optimist - now appears resigned to, judging from recent pronouncements.

The army too. "Fightin has now become a daily routine," says the official army spokesman, Colonel Carlos Aviles.

But "fighting", as the Colonel has said, is today aimed more at containing than defeating the FMLN.

The guerrilla combatants - well-armed and numbering about 6,000 - remain as resilient and iron-willed as ever.

Government forces - more mobile than ever - have had two major gains in the past year. They have managed repeatedly to penetrate the guerrillas' rearward mountain territory (misleadingly referred to as "controlled zones") and to force a substantial reduction in the FMLN's camp-following civilian supporters or "Massas".

A key reason for this has been the air force. The speed of movement provided by an American-supplied fleet of 60 helicopters - triple the number 18 months ago - has enabled troops to corral and capture "fleeing" Massas. Many thousands more have been terrorized by relentless aerial bombardments into abandoning the mountains for refugee camps - filled to overflowing - in the cities.

The guerrillas' political strength at present seems much reduced but they say they aim to recapture the initiative by "destabilizing" the Duarte

Government and continuing with a strategy of economic sabotage against which the army has so far provided few answers.

"Destabilizing", a guerrilla document has said, is achieved by "irregular" operations such as kidnappings - the capture of the President's daughter in September was one notable success.

Sabotage takes the form of transport stoppages (the last one paralysed 30 per cent of the country's roads), the destruction of electricity stations - black-outs are a nightly occurrence.

### Christmas truce

El Salvador's Government accepted a call by the Roman Catholic Church for a 10-day Christmas truce which left-wing rebels pledged to observe (Reuters reports from San Salvador).

The Communications and Culture Ministry said the truce started on Christmas Eve and would continue until midnight of January 2.

Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas, appealing for the truce, said the Salvadorean people had the right to tranquillity after six years of civil war in which about 60,000 people had died.

ence all over the country - and the burning of key export crops.

On Saturday, for example, guerrillas set fire to \$2 million worth of export-bound coffee - economic damage of a type which eventually rebounds badly in political terms, on President Duarte.

Guerrilla losses are still far lower than the army's. Since the Americans backed up the air force, the guerrillas have tended to operate in nimble, elusive units five or six strong. Army patrolling has consequently increased but the guerrillas have countered that with a very effective mining campaign. Military observers have estimated that mines are now accounting for 70 per cent of troop casualties.

But, as the economic crisis deepens, the number of young Salvadorean men willing to opt for the economically secure option of joining the army increases. That, and the United States' continued resolve to finance the war, has convinced many that the pattern of attrition introduced this year, is set to stay.

## Why pupils are weak on logic in Japan

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japanese high school students are good at solving problems through set formulas, but poor at anything which requires original thought. A survey of about 48,000 students showed that, though overall academic ability has improved since the last similar survey in 1966, the students are weak in logic.

The assessment underlines the need for the kind of educational reform being contemplated by the Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, if Japan is to produce future generations capable of sufficient innovation for the country to keep its place in the increasingly competitive high-technology race with Europe and the United States.

The 1 per cent of the school population surveyed produced an average of 66 out of 100 in Japanese, 65 on social studies and 71 in mathematics. The students were good at multiple-choice questions on Japanese characters and at reading Kanji characters. A knowledge of about 1,200 Kanji is necessary to read the morning newspaper.

But at composition of sentences the students were extremely weak in both Japanese and English. In one question which required the students to complete a sentence logically in Japanese, only 33 per cent gave a satisfactory answer.

This statistic is reflective both of the culture the present education system. The need to master so many Kanji before an individual becomes literate force on the student the need for repetitive memorization.

This trait is carried over into other aspects of education. The survey showed that students were not capable of logical or coherent thinking, now were they able to answer questions in social studies which spanned two or more areas.

The survey thus bears out the oft-repeated criticism that Japan's education system teaches the techniques of passing examinations but does not educate in the full sense of the word.

Mr Nakasone has had a task force at work for more than a year looking at ways the education system might be improved.

## Activists freed in Lahore

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

The authorities in Punjab have released most of the 200 opposition activists who were involved in clashes with the police in Lahore on Wednesday. But the opposition leaders arrested in connection with a planned public meeting in defiance of martial law were still in detention yesterday.

Most of the opposition leaders were picked up by police from their homes during the week to prevent the opposition alliance, the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, from holding a public meeting in the Punjab capital. The meeting was ostensibly called to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan.

In Wednesday's clashes police used tear gas to disperse the activists marching to the meeting. The police road blocks, retaliated with bricks and stones. Several policemen and demonstrators were injured in the clashes.

There are stringent security measures in force as the country is approaching the January deadline for the promised lifting of martial law after eight and a half years.

## Cathedral reopens in Peking

From Mary Lee, Peking

The reopening of Peking's biggest cathedral, Beitang, turned out to be a moving event for Catholics and a big propaganda exercise for the Chinese Communist party. Older men and women, with tears in their eyes, sang Latin hymns along with the choir as Bishop Michael Fu reconsecrated the building on a bitterly cold Christmas Eve morning. Many returned in the evening for midnight Mass and to receive Holy Communion.

Reporters from the official Chinese press and television cameras saw the reopening as proof of the party's policy of religious freedom. Among those seated in the pews was party secretary Mr Feng Mingwei, the deputy Mayor of Peking.

Bishop Fu described the event as a "new turning point, a new leaf" for the church, which will now be run by the Patriotic Catholic Association, set up after relations were broken with the Vatican in 1957. He called on Chinese Catholics to "love God, love the country and the people".

To the 30,000 Catholics in Peking who recognize the leadership of their independent church, it mattered little that the bishop's robes were a poor copy of those worn by Rome's representatives elsewhere. Bishop Fu was adorned in a white and gold vestment which resembled an embroidered table cloth.

The pews, however, were newly carved mahogany, while the wooden columns were freshly painted in red, green and gold.

The Chinese Government provided £250,000 for the restoration of the cathedral which was closed in 1957 and later turned into a storehouse during the Cultural Revolution.

## Retrial in child killing case

The man accused of the murder of Leonie Darnley aged 7, is to face a retrial next February after a jury failed to reach a verdict in a late sitting at the Central Criminal Court on Christmas Eve.

Patrick Reilly, aged 24, a labourer, of Anson Road, Holloway, north London, denies murdering the child, who went missing from a play area outside the tower block where she lived in Battersea Park estate, London, in July 1984.

Neighbours found her naked body in a basement shed beneath the flats. Her throat had been cut and she had other knife wounds.

At the end of a two-week trial and a retirement of nearly six hours, the jury said they were "hopelessly deadlocked" and could not reach a verdict.

The prosecution alleged that Mr Reilly, who was arrested three months after the murder, was linked to the crime by human hairs and fibres from a jacket at the scene.

The defendant did not give evidence but his counsel argued that the scientific evidence was inconclusive and at least seven other men were suspects.

## Threat to limb maker ended by minister

A Department of Health and Social Security threat to nationalize Britain's largest supplier of artificial limbs has been countermanded by Mr Tony Newton, Minister for the Disabled.

The threat to sequester J. E. Hanger's assets was made on December 18 after the company refused to accept a new contract proposed by the DHSS.

Dr James Hiddleston, managing director, said that the contract would halve the profit margin on limbs to 3.4 per cent and impose new authorizing procedures on the prescription of non-standard artificial limbs.

"If they have had a change of heart it was late on Christmas Eve and we have not heard about it. We would be happy to negotiate," Dr Hiddleston said yesterday.

Dr Hiddleston said the DHSS proposals applied to all six British companies supplying artificial limbs, but he believed Hanger had been singled out for cost cutting because it was the largest, with about half of the market.

The service providing artificial limbs and wheelchairs costs the DHSS about £33 million a year.

"Not only are the department's proposals commercially unrealistic, we have not had a price rise for 18 months, but the

imposition of more bureaucratic control would increase delays for patients", Dr Hiddleston said.

"We see 400 patients a day and 30 per cent of the limbs we supply are non-standard. The DHSS is imposing more and more rules and they have less and less people to work them."

"It is amazing that it can suggest it can run our business more efficiently than we can. Hanger is part of BTR, which is one of the most successful industrial companies in the world."

Dr Hiddleston said the DHSS had not commented on proposals by Hanger for it to take over the administration of the service and transportation of patients to treatment centres, which could save the Government £4.5 million a year.

He said that Hanger could take over the administration by computerization and adding about 100 people to its workforce of 850 replacing about 1,000 Civil Servants.

He added that Hanger's plan for transport of patients would free valuable ambulance services and give patients' more time at treatment centres.

Both plans were put to an inquiry being conducted by Professor Ian McColl. His report is due to be published in the new year.

## Unionists split on pact tactics

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Unionist leaders in Northern Ireland are divided on their strategy for next year after a series of by-elections demonstrated opposition to the Anglo-Irish agreement.

As they prepare for a mini general election in 15 constituencies next month, doubts are growing as to how long they can maintain the momentum of their campaign and what tactics should be followed after polling day on January 23.

Debate has started amongst senior Unionist figures in both the Democratic and Official Unionist parties about whether they should talk with the Social Democratic and Labour party.

Several senior figures recognized that Unionist tactics must be more positive, rather than the negative face they have so far presented to the world. Some suggest that Unionists

must consider all options, however distasteful, for the province's future.

Mr Frank Miller, chief executive of the Official Unionist Party said: "We have got to bring this province rapidly to a crisis. Any Unionist who thinks you could destroy this thing as the result of a prolonged battle is deluding himself. The longer it goes on, the more likely it is to gain acquiescence."

Within the Official Unionist party there are serious misgivings about the present tactics, particularly as there have been minor outbreaks of violence and two protests. There is doubt also about the commitment of leading figures, including Mr James Molyneux, the party leader and formerly Official Unionist MP for Lagan Valley, to a campaign involving street protests and

frequent appearances on the same platform with his rival, the Rev Ian Paisley, of the Democratic Unionist Party.

The second of 26 Irish National Liberation Army terrorists, convicted last week on the word of police informers, has a hunger strike yesterday in the Maze prison near Belfast.

The Northern Ireland Office confirmed that Gerard Steenson, aged 27, of Dunlavy Street, Belfast, who was given six life sentences for six separate murders, had begun refusing meals. He joins Robert Tobhill, aged 26, another convicted murderer, who began his fast on Thursday last week and has since taken nothing but water.

Republican sources said the 26 men would go on hunger strike at weekly intervals

## Ten of Bhagwan's aides expelled by India

Delhi (Reuters, AFP) - The Indian Government has expelled ten senior aides of the controversial guru, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, who returned to India from the United States last month.

Officials said the aides, including the Bhagwan's personal physician, cook, and nurse, were asked to leave last week when their temporary visas expired.

They said the guru's personal secretary, Ma Prem Hasya, who held a US passport under her original name of Françoise Ruddy Meredith, left yesterday for Kathmandu after the authorities cancelled her six-month visa.

The Bhagwan, aged 54, ran a commune in the United States for four years but left abruptly last month after pleading guilty to violating immigration laws by arranging sham marriages for his foreign followers.

He said he admitted the charges because his life was in danger from US politicians, who feared the influence of his 500,000 followers.

The guru, who left behind 90 Rolls Royces and a small fleet of aircraft, has set up headquarters in the resort town of Manali in the northern state of Himachal Pradesh.

Interviewed in Manali, the Bhagwan said he was disillusioned with India

## Phnom Penh says rebels giving up

From Paul Routledge, Singapore

More than 4,000 Cambodian resistance fighters battling the Vietnamese-installed administration of Mr Heng Samrin have surrendered this year, according to the government news agency in Phnom Penh.

The figure, up by about a quarter on the previous year, was given yesterday by China, promised to continue backing the rebel "Coalition Govern-

ment of Democratic Kampuchea" until final victory.

The Cambodian army SPK, monitored in Bangkok, argued that the guerrillas were giving up the armed struggle because of "Government democracy", military defeats and squabbling within the ranks of the tripartite coalition.

It has been no secret that the coalition forces - sometimes spend more time attacking each other than fighting the estimated

170,000 occupying Vietnamese forces, and in recent months their guerrilla activity has been sporadic.

Nothing has yet emerged from two days of exploratory peace talks held in Jakarta just before Christmas between high-ranking foreign Ministry officials of Vietnam and Indonesia.

The meeting was designed to launch a new initiative in the seven-year-old conflict.

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# Gorbachov ousts Moscow party chief as purge of old guard continues

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, Soviet leader, has continued his energetic shake-up of the old guard inside the Kremlin by securing the enforced retirement of Mr Viktor Grishin, aged 71, from his influential position as chief of the Moscow city Communist Party.

The purge of deadwood has also continued in the regions with the Prime Minister and President of the Republic of Moldavia being the latest in a long line of officials to lose their jobs since Mr Gorbachov took power on March 12. Since then, more than 20 per cent of officials have been replaced.

The retirement of Mr Grishin, announced briefly on Tass, had been widely predicted because he was known as one of the three remaining opponents of Mr Gorbachov still to retain his seat in the ruling Politburo. Although he is not expected to leave from formally until the new year, without his Moscow power base, his is a spent political force.

A former train driver whose name had been tainted by allegations of corruption in the vast Moscow regional organization, Mr Grishin was one of the least colourful members of the hierarchy.

"Grishin's departure could be the catalyst for the replacement of many other officials in the Moscow area," one diplomat explained. "The fact that Mr Gorbachov personally attended the meeting which retired him was a sign that there might have been some resistance."

The removal of Mr Grishin two months before the 27th Communist Party Congress was seen by Kremlin-watchers as a sign that Mr Gorbachov is pressing ahead ruthlessly with his purge of party deadwood despite hints of resistance in some quarters of the big Soviet bureaucracy.

The ousting of Mr Grishin from his Moscow party base was seen by Western observers as reinforcing earlier moves when Mr Gorbachov secured the sacking from the Politburo of his main rival, Mr Grigory Romanov, and the retirement in September of the country's petrochemical Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov.

Close attention will now be paid to the political future of the Soviet leader's other two main opponents in the ruling Politburo, Mr Vladimir Scherbatsky and Mr Kimmukhamed Kunayev. Neither is expected to remain at the centre of power for much longer and both are likely to be replaced by younger men more in Mr Gorbachov's own mould.

Nmr Grishin, a close associate of the former party leader, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, was replaced as Moscow party head by Mr Boris Yeltsin, aged 54, one of the new generation of young Soviet politicians closely associated with the style and views of Mr Gorbachov.

In the nine months since Mr Gorbachov took control, Mr Yeltsin, an engineer, has emerged from relative obscurity to become one of the fastest rising stars in the party. In April he was made head of the Central Committee's construction department and three months later was appointed one of 11 Central Committee secretaries.

It is widely expected that in 1986 Mr Yeltsin's position will be consolidated when he is appointed either to full or candidate (non-voting) membership of the 12-man Politburo.

One area where he is likely to become quickly involved is Moscow's serious housing problem. Recently the city administration has been attacked sharply in the state media, with one article accusing officials of falsifying figures to cover up shortcomings.



An Iranian soldier on battlefield patrol in the Huwazib marshland on the Iraqi border where a fresh offensive is expected.

## Iran ready to risk marshland campaign

From A Correspondent, Bahrain

Iran's massing of troops along its southern border with Iraq is the latest sign that the nagging Gulf War is far from over.

Western diplomats in the region estimate that Iran has sent at least 500,000 men to the front in preparation for a ground offensive. Expecting an assault across the Huwazib marshland, the Iraqis have strengthened their armoured units and sent their jets on scores of raids to try to demoralize the Iranian troops.

Iraq appears to be willing to risk a repeat of its campaign in Huwazib last March, in which at least 40,000 Iranians and 15,000 Iraqis died, if only to "punish" Iraq for its escalation of the war since the autumn.

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq pledged in August that his forces would strike at Iran's vital economic installations until the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini agreed to negotiate an end to the five-year conflict.

He has backed up his threat with more than 50 air raids on the Kharg Island oil terminal, through which Iran exports about 90 per cent of its oil, as well as intermittent sorties against Iranian electrical and oil pumping stations.

The Iranian leaders have remained insistent, however, that President Saddam must be ousted before peace can be discussed.

The smaller, Arab nations of the area have become increasingly concerned about the conflict widening to engulf them. As a British diplomat in Bahrain said: "If you are a mouse living with two elephants, you may be happy to see them distracted, but you worry one might roll over on you."

The "elephants" have made life more difficult around the Gulf. Neutral freighters, even close to the Saudi coast, have been hit by Iraqi missiles. And Iran has boarded scores of ships in the Gulf and in the Sea of Oman to search for and

### PROBLEMS IN THE GULF



Iraq towards neutrality, apparently hoping to press Iraq and appease Iran toward peace.

With his Arab support on the wane, President Saddam flew unexpectedly to Moscow last week to shore up relations with his key military supplier. As well as weapons, he was expected to seek Soviet help in ending Syria's support for Iran.

The non-warring Gulf states are meanwhile increasing self-defence efforts.

Saudi Arabia this autumn agreed to buy more than £3 billion worth of military aircraft from Britain, and its allies in the GCC are discussing an oil "safety net".

Gulf customers are also taking defensive steps. Transit freight business is sharply increased at the United Arab Emirates ports outside the Gulf, and non-Gulf oil terminals, notably the Saudi site at Yanbu on the Red Sea, are being expanded to provide safe loading berths for Western tankers.

Tomorrow: Economic pains

## Kabul tries carrot and stick policy

Islamabad (Reuters) - A security crackdown and a new drive to win over public opinion marked Kabul's official preparations for the sixth anniversary of Moscow's armed intervention in Afghanistan.

Soviet troops in flak jackets are often seen patrolling the capital's streets. Western diplomats said, after protests for Communist leaders, has become the most thorough ever witnessed.

President Babrak Karmal, installed in power on December 27, 1979, after about 80,000 Soviet troops were flown in to support the faltering Communist Party, called last month for a "national compromise".

He admitted indirectly that his Government, now backed by about 115,000 Soviet troops, had not been very successful in winning over the population.

Last Saturday a new commission was set up to look after Afghans returning from refugee camps in Pakistan. The Government promised to pay them a subsistence allowance, accommodate them and provide jobs and land.

Western diplomats said the Government's continued inability to win popular support had prompted it to adopt a more flexible policy but doubted if it would bring President Karmal many more supporters.

Abdul Haq, a Peshawar-based rebel commander who staged a spectacular series of raids on Kabul in December, 1982, gave journalists a sober assessment of the guerrilla's position.

He said many villages around Kabul which doubled as rebel hideouts, had been emptied by communist troops and the 107mm rocket used by the rebels to hit Kabul was "better than nothing but not accurate".

"The Soviets are better trained, better equipped with air and artillery support, and have better communications to call them in," he said.

"The Mujahideen have been slow in adapting. Our weaponry has not greatly improved and we don't have a good programme for training."

Leading article, page 13

## Pretoria troops hit guerrillas in Angola

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South African troops have killed 15 guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) in eight separate contacts in a continuing operation inside southern Angola which began on December 14, according to South African sources.

The sources also claimed that seven arms caches and a temporary guerrilla base had been destroyed by a small element of South African troops.

Swapo has been fighting for the independence of South West Africa-occupied Namibia for nearly 20 years, and has operated from bases in Angola for most of the last 10.

Official military spokesmen here refused to comment on the operation, or on a claim five days ago by the Angolan Government that for South African Army battalions, backed by tanks and aircraft, had pushed up to 60 miles into the south-western Cunene province.

The Angolans further alleged that the real purpose of the operation was not to strike at Swapo guerrillas, but to help the forces of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement, engaged in a civil war with Luanda since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975.

Angop, the Angolan state news agency, claimed last Saturday that South African Mirage fighters and other military aircraft had violated Angolan air space over southern provinces 11 times between November 25 and December 20.

In Washington, Unita's foreign affairs spokesman, Mr Jeremias Chitunda, claimed that heavy fighting was going on between Dr Savimbi's forces and Angolan troops trying to advance on Mavinga, a jungle town, two Unita strongholds in south-west Angola.

Mr Chitunda said that Unita had lost about 50 men and the Angolans forces "at least" 200. The government attack, he said, had been launched from Cuito Cuanavale, from where between 1,500 and 2,000 Cuban soldiers were providing logistic support and flying some MIG fighters and helicopters for the Angolans. Luanda has not announced any new offensive.

Military analysts here doubt that the fighting is on the same scale as the last Angolan offensive, supported by the Russians and Cubans, between July and October. Unita held off that attack, but only with the aid most observers believe, of South African air strikes at a crucial stage in the fighting.

It is rather surprising that Luanda should have launched another offensive so soon, as the rainy season has now arrived, giving Unita's more mobile guerrillas an advantage by bogging down the mechanized armoured columns of the government forces.

A former US ambassador to the United Nations, Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, claimed in the Washington Post earlier this week that Cuban troops commanded by Soviet officers "fresh from Afghanistan" were being deployed in the latest Luanda offensive against Unita.

## Civil Guard chief jostled at funeral

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Angry mourners at the funeral of retired Lieutenant-General Juan Añares, assassinated by Basque extremists, jostled and insulted the commanding general of the Civil Guard and other officials, and showered them with coins as a gesture of scorn, according to reports published here yesterday.

The funeral took place in the northern city of Pamplona on Christmas Eve. As Lieutenant-General José Sáenz de Santamaría, the Director-General of Spain's paramilitary forces, left the local Civil Guard headquarters, where a Requiem Mass was held, men from a crowd of about 2,000 surged forward and grappled with policemen protecting him.

There were also shouts of "Government resign!" "Get tough!" "ETA to the firing squad!" and "Santamaría quit!"

Protesters banged their fists on the general's car as it drove away in a shower of coins. The Madrid Government's delegate in the region of Navarra, Señor Luis Roldán, was also hit by coins, as was the Chief Minister of the Navarra regional government, Señor Gabriel Urribarri; the Commander of the Western Periphery Military District, Lieutenant-General Miguel Iniguez del Moral.

In a communiqué, the terrorist organization ETA has admitted responsibility for the shooting of General Añares, and for three other attacks on Civil Guard officers.

The general's funeral coincided with the release from prison of one more ETA activist, granted a special pardon under the Government's controversial programme of "social reintegration" of members of ETA who agree to give up violence.

Politicians jailed: The Supreme Court in Madrid has sentenced two Basque political leaders to one year's imprisonment yesterday for making press statements in defence of terrorism (AP reports). The court also ordered Jon Idigoras and Inaki Ruiz de Pinedo, leaders of Herri Batasuna, a Marxist-inspired political party advocating the Basque regime's separation from Spain, to pay fines of 100,000 pesetas (£450).

## Mexican treasures stolen in break-in

Mexico City (AP) - More than 140 artefacts in the National Museum of Anthropology and History have been stolen in the country's largest archaeological theft, the government newspaper El Nacional reported yesterday.

Among the objects missing on Christmas Day from the

Maya, Mexico and Oaxaca exhibition areas were almost all those on display from the sacred reservoir at Chichen Itza in the Yucatan peninsula, several pieces from the Palenque ruins in southern Mexico, and rare golden artefacts in the Mixtec room.

Also listed as missing were

the Zapotec mask of the "Mucelago," or bat god, and an invaluable Aztec obsidian sculpture representing a monkey.

Señor Enrique Florescano, the museum's director, said the stolen pieces could not be sold in Mexico, and probably would be smuggled out for sale

## 50 Vietnam refugees murdered by pirates

Geneva (Reuters) - Pirates killed 50 Vietnam boat refugees and kidnapped a pregnant woman, the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said here yesterday.

About 20 pirates with iron bars and knives came alongside in two fishing vessels on December 16, boarded the boat and forced every male aged over 17 into the South China Sea, where all but two drowned.

The pirates separated the pregnant woman from her children and threw her husband overboard. There were 30 survivors.

## Dates set for chess play-offs

Lucerne (Reuters) - The semi-finals to select a challenger for the world chess championship will begin next month, with three Soviet players and one from The Netherlands competing.

Rafael Vaganian and Anorel Sokolov start their semi-final on January 8 in Minsk; Artur Yusupov and Dutchman Jan Timman begin their match on January 15 in Tilburg. The Netherlands.

## Cars recalled

Paris (Reuters) - Renault is recalling more than 1.5 million cars for safety checks affecting Renault 9 and Renault 11 models produced before July this year. It follows the discovery of corrosion in some steering boxes. Only French-manufactured cars are involved.

## Plague strikes

Dar es Salaam (Reuters) - Five people have died of bubonic plague in north-east Tanzania and 30 more are in hospital, Radio Tanzania reported.

## Sudan ambush

Cairo (Reuters) - Sudanese rebels said they killed 50 government troops in a Christmas Eve ambush of a convoy travelling between Rumbek and Yirol in southern Sudan.

## Asylum pleas

Hamburg (AP) - About 20 Poles on holiday visits to the West asked for political asylum in West Germany on Christmas Eve, police here said.

## Chinese quiet on hijacking of Soviet plane

Peking (Reuters) - Mystery surrounds the whereabouts of a Soviet airliner hijacked to China last week and the fate of the man believed to be the hijacker.

Chinese officials were tight-lipped over what happened to the civilian Antonov 24, thought to have been carrying about 50 passengers and crew on a flight to North Korea.

The Foreign Ministry said on Christmas Day that the airliner was forced down in China's northernmost province of Heilongjiang on Thursday last week.

"The crew and all passengers returned safely to the Soviet Union on December 21," Mr Ma Yuzhen, head of the ministry's information department, said. He gave no other details.

A Hong Kong newspaper with close ties to China, Ta Kung Pao, reported that a man with a knife forced the aircraft to land.

MOSCOW: The Soviet Union formally thanked the Chinese Government for its co-operation over the hijacking. Christopher Walker writes, Tass said: "The Soviet side expressed gratitude to the Chinese authorities for the spirit of good neighbourly co-operation they displayed in the situation."



The Dalai Lama, self-exiled from Tibet since 1959, addressing a gathering of some 200,000 Buddhist monks from all over the world at the start of a week of religious ceremonies at Bodhgaya, in northern India.

## Minorities protest in Shanghai

Peking (AFP) - About 100 Muslim students from the remote north-western region of Xinjiang yesterday staged a protest in Shanghai against nuclear tests in the province, it has been claimed.

The students, who gathered in the city centre, were also protesting at the presence of labour camps in Xinjiang.

Witnesses said they carried banners saying "stop nuclear tests" and "do not turn Xinjiang into a concentration camp," a source in Shanghai said.

The demonstration came after a meeting in Peking on Christmas Day between ethnic

## Nuclear tests spark off student anger

minority students and Chinese officials called after a similar demonstration in Peking on Sunday.

About half the 900 students of the Uigur and Kazak minorities stormed out of the meeting, calling on the others to follow them, after the officials rejected demands for an end to nuclear testing, according to a student at the meeting.

Five Chinese officials spoke to the students at the National Minorities Institute through a Uigur interpreter, telling them that the nuclear tests were necessary and that China's policies towards minorities

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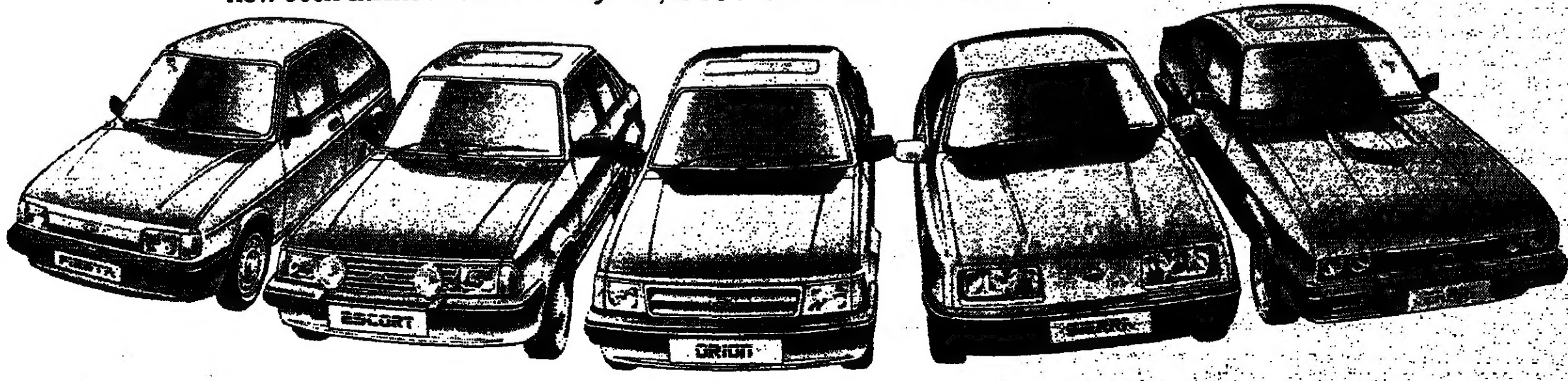
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36 Monthly Instalments of	118.81	137.77	156.94	181.98	186.79	216.60	213.86	247.98	183.62	212.92
Charge for Credit	548.11	1230.67	723.98	1625.42	861.69	1934.85	986.68	2215.00	847.14	1901.94
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# THE ARTS

Cinema: David Robinson assesses the profit and loss account of 1985

## Hollywood turns its back on the adult intelligence

In the history of world cinema, 1985 may well be recorded as the blackest year of all. It was in this year that Hollywood, having for almost three-quarters of a century dominated both the industry and art of the film, ceded all pretence of serving mature adult intelligence. *Variety*, the venerable journal of American show business, expressed it best: "When the causes of the Decline of Western Civilization are finally writ, Hollywood will surely have to answer why it turned one of man's most significant art forms over to the self-gratification of high-schoolers".

It would be hard to find more than a dozen American films of 1985 that are not aimed at an audience of teenagers adjudged to be of severely limited intellectual development. The predominant industrial product in 1985 was teenage horror, teenage sex, teenage comedy. The same high-school characters appeared in film after film. The popularity of films in which violent, unconquerable, fabulous heroes commit wholesale slaughter, in defence of American values, against enemies within and without - Sylvester Stallone in *Rambo: First Blood* and Chuck Norris in *Missing in Action* and *Invasion USA* - seemed to be connected as much to the same teenage phenomenon as to the more general paranoia of the Second Cold War.

It is true in a sense that the film industry has always conceived its audience as children, for we are all of us children at heart, longing only to be told stories. The difference in better days was that the men who made films supposed that this universal child had the capacity to respond to their art with intelligence, sensitivity and hope. Robert Zemeckis's *Back to the Future* and Ron Howard's *Cocoon* are exceptional current examples of films which address the child in us without abusing our sensibilities or intelligence. There are signs of nostalgia for wiser times, too, in the attempt to revive the classic drama of the West, in Clint Eastwood's *Pale Rider* and Lawrence's *Kasdan's Silverado*.

The best of Hollywood's year hardly needs the fingers of two hands to count it: Woody Allen's magical tribute to the movies, *The Purple Rose of Cairo*; John Huston's sophisticated Mafia comedy, *Prizzi's Honor*; John Boorman's ecological spectacle, *The Emerald Forest*; Peter Weir's *Witness*, and the quieter attractions of Susan Seidelman's *Desperately Seeking Susan* and Wayne Wang's affectionate comedy of Chinese-American life, *Dim Sum - A Little Bit of Heart*; the ambition, at least, of Alan Parker's *Birdy*.

In this country we have had British Film Year. This industry public relations exercise set out with the large ambition of increasing cinema attendances by four per cent by the end of the year, and in less than that time can point to a dramatic upturn of 40 per cent. Pleasing as it would be



The cheering phenomenon of the emergence of the first genuine regional and populist cinema: Alexandra Piggy and Peter Firth in *Letter to Brezhnev*

to credit such spectacular success to BFY, the statistics will need careful analysis to eliminate other causes (*Rambo*, perhaps? Or the fall-off in enthusiasm reported in the video cassette market?).

Let us admit it in advance, however: if even some part of the increase can be credited to British Film Year, those of us who mocked its return to the publicity methods of the Thirties (handprints in concrete and star autograph sessions in the regional wildernesses) will need to eat our words.

In terms of production the most cheering phenomenon has been the appearance and the commercial success of Chris Bernard's *Letter to Brezhnev*, which declared for the first time a genuine regional and populist cinema. *Brazil* and Stephen Frears's film of Hansi Kureishi's scenario, *My Beautiful Laundrette*, were also comedies that showed that British films were not irredeemably committed to nostalgia. Other notable British films of the year were Mike Newell's *Dance With a Stranger* and Hugh Brody's *Nineteen Nineteen*. It is cheering too that two projects that have been frustrated for years, Bill Douglas's story of the Tolpuddle Martyrs, *Comrades*, and Derek Jarman's *Caravaggio*, are finally in full production.

### VALETTE

Directors: Orson Welles (70); Sam Peckinpah (59); Henry Hath-

way (86); Sergei Yutkevitch (80) and Sergei Gerasimov (79), survivors from the heroic age of Soviet cinema. Stars: Francesc Berini (93), the first diva; Simone Signoret (64); Ruth Gordon (88), scerbic comedienne and writer; Louise Brooks (79), the authentic Lulu; Rock Hudson (59); Georgia Hale (79), Chaplin's leading lady in *The Gold Rush*; Michael Redgrave (77); Dawn Addams (54); Margaret Hamilton (83), the Wicked Witch of the West; Stepin Fetchit (83); "Bilko" Phil Silvers (73); Yul Brynner, who was evasive about his age; three notable Hollywood casualties of the McCarthy black list, Gale Sondergaard (86), Albert Maltz (76), Alvah Bessie (79); Lester Cole (81).

Turning to the obligatory game of end-of-year awards, I can find no single candidate for best of the year, but offer instead:

Best US Film: *Purple Rose of Cairo* (Woody Allen).

Best British Film: *Letter to Brezhnev* (Chris Bernard).

Best Foreign-Language Film: *Ran* (Akira Kurosawa, Japan); *Yagobond* (Agnes Varda, France); *Colonel Redl* (Istvan Szabo, Hungary); *When Father Was Away on Business* (Emir Kusturica, Yugoslavia); *Yellow Earth* (Chen Kaige, China).

Best Actor: William Hurt in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*.

Best Actress: Norma Aleandro in *The Official Story*.

Best Supporting Actor: Armin Mueller-Stahl in *Colonel Redl*.

Most Promising Newcomer: Margi Clark in *Letter to Brezhnev*.

Special Award: Channel 4, for its involvement in practically every worthwhile film production, British or foreign, of 1985.

Lou Bunin's *Alice in Wonderland* has had to wait almost forty years for a showing in this country, and now appears, with a U certificate, at the



The Forties look: Carol March in *Alice in Wonderland*

Everyman, Hampstead. Now an octogenarian, Bunin is a Russian-born painter. In 1926 he founded Chicago's Marionette Studio in collaboration with the writer Meyer Levin, and in the Thirties turned to the cinema. In 1946 he began work on a version of *Alice in Wonderland* shot in France and combining live action and puppets. By the time the film was finished, however, the Disney organization had revived a previously abandoned plan for their own *Alice*. Disney were frustrated in their attempt to prevent the release of Bunin's film by litigation, but their publicity campaign - added to the unexplained refusal of Technicolor to work for Bunin - effectively ended its commercial chances. It was never shown in this country, where it was believed that the resemblance of the Queen of Hearts to Queen Victoria was likely to prove offensive.

The film had some distinguished collaborators: Albert Lewis as a writer, Art Babbitt as animation consultant, Claude Renoir as photographer, Roland Petit as choreographer. The live action director, Dallas Bower, and the supervising editor, Inman Hunter, are British. The cast, who doubled the parts of Carroll's Oxford circle and the voices of his creatures, included Stephen Murray, Pamela Brown and Felix Aylmer. Carol March, as Alice, seems too mature, and has too much the look of the Forties.

The stars though are Bunin's puppets, which share with Starevich's film creatures a hand-crafted look, vigour and vitality. Inspired but not restricted by Tenniel, Bunin manages to give vivid characterization even to the walk-ons, and a hauntingly sinister quality to the Duchess and the Knave of Hearts. The tragedy is that the inferior colour system forced on him by the non-cooperation of Technicolor has faded so badly.

## Theatre

### Cinderella Palladium

Topping the bill of this year's Palladium pantos is Des O'Connor, of the hitting baritone and winsome smile: an underdog star, well cast as Buttons.

It is not the most dominating of roles, but Mr O'Connor has a go, by playing as much to the house as to the surrounding company, and taking every chance he gets to deflate every social climber in sight. Sometimes, alas, this extends to the audience as well; as where he assembles a group of defenceless tots and proceeds to invite demotic jeers at the expense of these unlikely enough to have cash names. He then dispatches them back to their seats laden with bottles of ketchup and tins of beans.

Inside the story, he also tries to subvert Cinderella's aspirations by staging an imaginary ball of his own, where - instead of the Prince - she will be able to rub shoulders with down-to-earth citizens from Dallas. His deception seems really heartfelt when this ruse fails to come off. Some idea of a *Cinderella* for the common man has also rubbed off on Warner Brown's retelling of the story, which shows the Prince (Paul Nicholas) relishing his lowly incoherence and falling for the ragged Cinderella in the forest well before her transformation into Princess Crystal. There is also one extremely effective duet when Buttons and the Prince sink

their rivalry in a song of friendship.

On the other hand, there is no assisting royalty-struck romance in a show supervised by Anna Neagle's Fairy Godmother, a regally dignified figure slowly raising her wand in the likeness of a white-gloved hand.

So far as the fairy-tale goes, Norman Maen's production is an extremely confused show; as is continuously evident from the contrast between the Emanuel's inexhaustibly glamorous costume and the relentlessly dowdy sets of Hugh Durrant.

The Emanuel scores highest in their amazing dresses for the Ugliers, who appear variously as walking powder-puffs or lighted wedding cakes, and in hooped skirts that zip open like theatre curtains. Peter Lambert and Willie Ross are thus repeatedly upstaged by their own costumes; and the main comic honours go to Hope and Keen as the Broker's Men, a pair of omniscient singers, jugglers, combatants and acrobats who maintain a close comic relationship that survives without words, and, more remarkably, even with the words they do say.

Otherwise, there is some good dancing, some of which - such as a pirouetting line-up of glass-slipper contestants - even advances the story. Sarah Payne's Cinderella, however, resists her self-pity, has a voice to match Mr O'Connor's.

Irving Wardle

## Concert

### Te Kanawa/Philharmonia/Davis

You will not have got your tickets torn by Father Christmas, and you will not have been played in by the Salvation Army band. You will not have been given a Christmas card from the sponsors, nor sneaked a glimpse of Kiri's Rolls-Royce. But if you turned your television to BBC2 at 7.30pm yesterday, you might well have got what I missed as I ran through the streets of Clerkenwell to bring you this preview of Kiri Te Kanawa at Christmas: a vapour-trail of carols floating into the night sky, as the house-lights dimmed and the ones among the poinsettias twinkled.

It was like that it had to be. Kiri changed her frock halfway through. And Davis, whom it was good to see as well as to hear for once, premiered his dirty "The Most Wonderful Birthday of All" ("... is the birthday that brings us together"); and even the earliest

faces of the Tallis Chamber Choir twitched a muscle or two during "White Christmas".

The Morton Gould *Serenade of Carols*, a favourite of Davis from his New York boyhood, was worth watching out for. If you got settled with the muffled wine during Mozart's sugared-almond arrangement of the *Messiah* Pastoral Symphony, you could sit back and enjoy a sharp little four-movement piece for double string quartet, woodwind, brass and harp. The carols ripple out from the subconscious memory (but what is the one just before "God rest ye merry"?).

Kiri's "Laudate Dominum" from Mozart's *Vespers* was dispatched almost as breathlessly as the Bright Seraphim; a pity, because half the joy of her vocalise is its ornaments and cadences, both of which were jostled along rather impatiently. The Philharmonia seemed to enjoy their preview of Kiri's 1985 Christmas album, a set of carols in the styles of... well, that I'll leave you to guess.

Hilary Finch

Television: Nicholas Shakespeare meets Alan Plater, whose *Coming Through* is shown on ITV tonight, and Celia Brayfield reviews her pick of the Christmas holiday programmes

## Demonic drive

Last September that gritty working-class playwright Alan Plater left his wife and his native Hull and ran away to London. "To find true love," adds Shirley, the social worker whom he ran away for. His street credibility may have taken a nosedive since he moved with her into Eton Hall, Eton College Road, but not his career. "It's been a lovely year," he agrees.

Sitting on a sofa in his semi-furnished flat, he has a monkish look about him - also, sometimes, the look of a monkey. Bashfully he recites the list - his television series and novel *The Beiderbecke Affair*, his marvelous dramatization of Edward Lear, *On the Edge of the Sand*, his Miss Marple, the screen version of his stage play *On Your Way, Riley!*, his Royal Television Society Writer's Award, his Doctorate of Letters from Hull ("a nice distinction to share with Philip [Larkin]"), his jazz opera *Prez*, the revival of his feature film *Priest of Love*, and finally another work inspired by D. H. Lawrence, *Coming Through*, showing on ITV tonight.

"He won't lie down," says Plater, referring not to his red setter Duke - named after Ellington - but Lawrence. It is his third bite at the man. His first, the screenplay for *The Virgin and the Gypsy*, effectively launched his career. "For any regional writer with even token working-class roots, this is the man who set out the ground-rules. He sank a pit-shaft into areas of human experience. People like me just chip away at the seams he revealed."

When Central Television asked for a play to celebrate Lawrence's centenary, Plater decided to home in on his early life in Nottingham. "There was only one problem about a straight bio-drama of a young man growing up in the North. Lawrence had done it himself in *Sons and Lovers*." Plater settled instead for the crucial period of his love-affair with Frieda. "When they met he was 27, she was 32, married, an aristocrat with three children. Within a month she leaves with him for Europe. This is Edwardian England." Plater emphasizes. The heavy lines under his eyes suggest he might once have opened them too wide. "I wanted to demolish the myth that Lawrence is a miserable,



brooding, introspective loony. Worldly women don't run away with someone like that." In *Coming Through*, Plater attempts to make us see the relevance of Lawrence in 1985. He also tries to restore some truth to the cliché of someone whose name is synonymous with permissiveness. The method he uses is to interweave the romance of Lawrence and Frieda with the modern tale of Kate, a mature Open University student who is studying the master. One weekend in Nottingham, searching for his secret soul among the library books, she meets a soi-disant expert and predator called David. David stands for all that is wrong with our interpretation of Lawrence.

The parallel tale is a strange, even brave format. *Coming Through* is probably not the play that Plater will be remembered for, but he was attracted by the risk. "I've got this ground-rule. If in doubt, head for the nearest precipice."

In adapting other people's work and other people's lives - from Orwell to Trollope - Plater is attracted by anyone "who draws pictures, writes words down, amuses people". He will not touch his absolute heroes, though: Duke Ellington, James Thurber and the cartoonist Saul Steinberg. He admires Steinberg because he trained as an architect, "like Hardy, John Arden, Dario Fo" - and Plater himself, who studied, fitfully, at Newcastle in the 1950s. One or two shop-fronts in Hull and nine houses testify to the fact he was right to quit, though he has laid out the plans for the Eton Hall flat. "I didn't have a single new idea. Whatever kind of imagination I've got needs more than three dimensions." The architectural training was useful. It taught him structure and it taught him, in the use of story-boards, "to write pictures".

Since 1961, "excited by the blank sheet", he has written over 200 pictures - from *Z Cars*, where he gained his shop-floor experience, to that key political play *Close the Coal-house Door* and the *Barchester Chronicles*. His facility with words on and off the page is legend. "That silver-tongued bastard" is how one ITV head of drama describes him, and Plater acknowledges that after 25 years "you get a full set of muscles" - muscles which enabled him to invent two Edward Lear limericks and a Trollope sermon without anyone noticing. He writes fast. "Ideally I like to write at the same speed I like to think. Sometimes I get quite close. I have a lot of preparation. Then I dive in and leave it to the demon."

## Partnerships of perfection

Seasonal goodwill pervaded the scant quota of original television programmes sandwiched between feature films over the holiday; superlatives lay round about, deep, crisp and evenly applied to such disparate worthies as Orson Welles, Arthur Daley, Joan Collins and Roland Rat.

*Fonteyn and Nureyev: The Perfect Partnership* (Channel 4, Christmas Day) put its case most strongly. The 17-year diminutive of Dame Margot Fonteyn with Rudolf Nureyev, which began shortly after his defection from Russia and ended with her retirement in 1979, was variously described as affecting ballet audiences like an earthquake, a pop concert or Maria Callas; tribute was paid to Nureyev's whirlwind impact, animal excitement and lascivious descent. The partnership was, said Clement Crisp, an artistic love-affair conducted in public.

Unhappily, there was little evidence to support these memories. Most of the film records of performances were made in the era in which ballet on camera was a matter of two diminutive individuals with indistinct faces shot on acres of prettily-illuminated floor. The film of *Marguerite and Armand* looked like a satire on confectionary commercials. Only a few moments of budding film, shot on film from a camera allegedly concealed under an American fan's mistle, evoked a little of the magic. The programme was very light on biographical background, and was made without the co-operation of the two legendary dancers themselves. Inevitably, it was a disappointment.

The end of another great partnership was celebrated in *Minder on the Orient Express*

(ITV, Christmas Day), which was billed as the last thrash of Dennis Waterman, George Cole and the team who have created a new genre of crime comedy with the series *Minder*. There was nothing disappointing about this apotheosis, which neatly twisted Agatha Christie's principles of suspense around the familiar scenario of a scramble for a dead criminal's stash.

All the hallmarks of this particular brand of greatness were displayed to advantage: the plot had a satisfying symmetry, the direction dealt even-handedly with glitz and grime, the throwaway gags were a delight and the minor roles were both acutely written and marvelously performed. Adam Faith was the essence of menace as a professional criminal and Honor Blackman as the best-dressed moll looked even younger than Joan Collins, who appeared on home or so later to tell Des O'Connor (ITV) how turned-on she was by the 6,000-strong crowd gathered to see her inaugurate the West End Christmas lights.

There was a great deal of support for the description of cricketer Viv Richards as "the greatest to ever play" who have ever seen" in Boxing Day's documentary *Viv* (Channel 4). This was an almost-unrelieved press of praise but, unlike Peter Barry's *Fonteyn-Nureyev* documentary, it included interviews with a reasonable quorum of colleagues and commentators and had the benefit of plentiful performance recordings.

There was a perceptible naivety about *Viv* which was quite un-British; far more acceptable to our notions of what is fitting is the kind of wry superiority with which Terry Wogan dissects the American luxury soap operas. There is a suspicion of too much protest

about this stance, but it is a good position from which to be witty, as the special edition of *Wogan* (BBC1) from *Dynasty's* Denver demonstrated.

Over the period of screen festivities the First Noel award for studied innocence must surely go to the celebrated American writer Studs Terkel, who was seen presiding over a nostalgia session entitled *Mel Brooks Hails Sid Caesar* (Channel 4, Christmas Day). This evoked the golden era of American television comedy which saw a weekly 1½-hour live show starring Caesar and written by a think tank including Brooks, Carl Reiner, Neil Simon, Woody Allen, Larry Gelbart and many others. "But this was comedy by committee," Terkel exclaimed, having listened to the assembled jokers attack each other with the smiling savagery unique to the Jewish citizens of New York; "what happens to the ego?" Wisely, his respondents evaded the answer.

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# To my son – a letter for life

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_



# Time to stop the torment

The recent series on schizophrenia prompted many touching accounts from readers of their own experience of this neglected illness

## TALKBACK

From S. Johnson, London SW1. I have three children. They were all normal healthy babies. Two have grown up to hold responsible jobs, but one suffers from schizophrenia. She first showed signs of it in her early teens. By the time she was 19, although beautiful and intelligent, she gradually sank into a deep depression and began to live a solitary existence.

She disappeared with her friends, dressed herself in black and refused to eat meals with the family. She kept to her room, read her textbooks without comprehension, stayed awake most of the night and slept most of the day. She never smiled.

Unable to continue at university, she spoke to no one and began to lose touch with reality. We took her to our GP, who advised us to let her be alone. Months later, we took her to a Harley Street psychiatrist, who tried to "talk" her out of her illness. The following year we took her to another GP, who told us that she could not be admitted to hospital until she became a danger to either herself or to others.

We were frightened for her life. She became more and more hallucinated until eventually she was almost run over in heavy traffic while fleeing from an imaginary assailant. Then the police drove her to a psychiatric hospital where at long last she was given medical treatment for this living nightmare.

Public awareness of the fact that one out of every hundred of the population suffers from this illness will bring forth a clamour for research into its causes and eventual cure. A great deal of money has been raised for research into the various forms of cancer, and heartening results have been achieved. Likewise, money must be raised for research into schizophrenia.

## Wasted years

From J. M. Pringle (Mrs), Surbiton, Surrey.

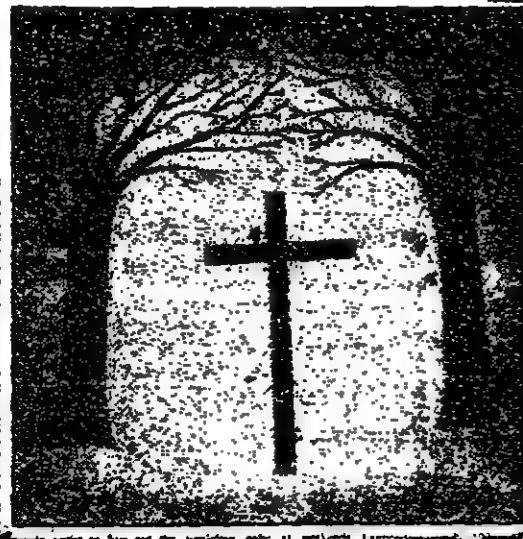
In 1970 *The Times* published an article by my late husband, John Pringle, about the appalling difficulties that lay in the path of sufferers from schizophrenia.

As a direct result of the astonishing response by your readers to that article, my husband was able to set up the National Schizophrenia Fellowship. The graphic report by Marjorie Wallace

The tragedy of schizophrenia: how the law has left sufferers to decide their own future

## A patient's cry - can nobody help?

In the last of the three-part series on schizophrenia, Marjorie Wallace looks at the implications of the 1983 Mental Health Act and the forgotten effect it had on one man's life



Community care has been proposed since the 1960s, but the Mental Health Act 1983 has left patients to decide their own future. The act gives patients the right to refuse treatment, but it also gives doctors the power to force treatment on them if they are deemed to be a danger to themselves or others.

shows, however, that, despite all our efforts, the sad tales are the same as they were 15 years ago; indeed, the situation is made even worse by the rundown of hospitals. Will our legislators never learn? Are they content to hear of suicides of elderly patients breaking under the strain of the downward path almost inevitably trodden by a discharged schizophrenic with no settled shelter to go to?

## Distressing side-effects

From Dorothy N. Thomson, Agnew Terrace, Edinburgh.

I should just like to say how much your major articles on schizophrenia are appreciated. I have been a sufferer for 10 years. I am possibly one of the lucky ones, having had only one relapse, two years ago, when in consultation with my psychiatrist, it was tried to get me "off" medication. However, it would appear that I shall have to take medication for the rest of my life.

This in itself is not too much of an inconvenience. The worrying thing (for me at any rate) is the prospect of increasing side-effects as I grow older. The term for this is tardive dyskinesia, to which a programme was devoted recently on television. Unfortunately, although Despotik, Maccate or similar drugs render one "sensible", in the process one becomes aware of these side-effects - trembling, restlessness or spasmodic mouth movements. This can be as distressing as the illness itself.

Your article points out quite rightly that a person in the full throes of an attack often does not realize his own condition. Awareness of these side-effects (in my case and I am sure in many others) results in a feeling of freakishness and loss of confidence.

## Caring policy

From Patrick Campbell, Chairman, Friern Hospital Medical Committee and others, Friern Hospital, Friern Barnet Road, London N11.

In the second of her articles, Marjorie Wallace quoted the mother of a patient, whose body was found in a river, as being told that Friern Hospital has a policy not "to retain people who were unlikely to improve". This error deserves correction in case Ms Wallace's otherwise excellent article adds further to the anxieties of relatives of patients cared for at Friern. There is not now, and there never has been, such a hospital policy.

## Serious misgivings

From Ian Gordon, Beach Road, Harford, Northwich, Cheshire.

As the father of a young man who committed suicide while at weekend leave from the psychiatric wing of the local general hospital, where he was being treated for schizophrenia, I have grave misgivings about the current state of psychiatric medicine, even when this is being applied in a controlled environment.

When we had earlier questioned the extremely high dosage of drugs being

prescribed for my son, we were told bluntly by the psychiatrist that the dosage was necessary to prevent his killing himself. However, neither the fact that my son had attempted suicide while in the care of the hospital, nor the fact that he had been deeply depressed during the previous week, apparently caused the medical staff any compunction about allowing him home in our care for the ill-fated weekend.

I understand that one of the factors in support of the policy of returning patients who are seriously disturbed mentally to community care is the bland assurance of the psychiatric profession that patients' behaviour can now be adequately controlled by drugs.

In my experience of the way my son's condition deteriorated while under drug therapy, confidence in the skills of modern psychiatric medicine is patently misplaced.

## Scandal of our time

From Graham Hough, The White Cottage, Grantham, Cambridge.

Your articles, though valuable, were incorrectly described. They were not specifically about schizophrenia, but about the wider problem of the treatment of mental patients in general.

Surely the situation revealed is one of the grossest scandals of our time. The phrase "cared for in the community" is the flimsiest piece of hypocrisy of which even recent governments have been guilty; it simply means not cared for at all.

# Where the rising son pays dearly for wedded bliss

Japanese couples often spend an entire year's salary on their marriage celebrations. David Watts reports



Swinging down in a gondola through a cloud of dry ice, as if in some forgettable bad film, a young Japanese couple approach the high point of their wedding.

Alighting among their guests in a Tokyo hotel, a spotlight picks them out in the darkened room as they walk round to light candles at each guest table, at extra cost of course.

Wedding ceremonies in Japan today are a metaphor for the society, a mélange of East and West wrapped in an expensively kitsch package and rooted firmly in neither tradition.

In a land where the supreme virtue is to be Mr Average, to vary not an iota from your neighbour, the marriage industry interlards that puts the individual in the spotlight for a day.

Couples who cannot even afford a deposit on a tiny flat lay out an average of a year's salary on a corporate "coming out".

Wedding halls do express business at the most auspicious times of the year, "processing" a couple every 15 or 30 minutes, video coverage and the candle ceremony extra.

Many couples inwardly rebel against the waste but the cult of me-too-ism stifles all but the most outlandishly un-Japanese.

## Ridiculous or not, the obligations of life in Japan take over

The genre was taken to its heights last summer with the marriage of a young female pop singer, Seiko Matsuda, the latest in the seemingly endless supply of pretty young Japanese singers whose every song goes to number one. Her marriage to Masaki Kanda, a dandy handsome actor, produced some staggering statistics.

The wedding cake cost 10 million yen (£5,000), her dresses and kimonos ten times that. Food for the wedding reception cost £133 per head and drink about £66. The total cost was 200 million yen (£70,000).

Atsuo Ishihara's ambitions for his wedding to Nobuko Aikawa were much more modest. He set out wanting a small, quiet ceremony. He's a good-looking fresh-faced young man with the unworried naivety of many young Japanese. His favourite pastime is choral singing.

Although he works for one of Japan's largest and best-known trading companies, he held back from marrying his fiancée for some time because of the difficulty of financing himself and a wife. She has to help with her father's small soy sauce company, a family obligation which brings with it no salary.

Mr Ishihara took a trip to

the typical apartments available to young marrieds in Tokyo and didn't like what he saw: "Great tower blocks with factories all around. You really feel the pressure there. I was really scared to see this monotonous scene."

Even for an exceedingly modest "mansion", the Japanese euphemism for a small flat in an apartment block, the going price is 20 million yen (£70,000).

He would rather have put the money spent on the wedding ceremony into something more long-lasting. Even a relatively simple affair at the industrial club of Japan, cost 4.5 million yen (£15,600) for 140 guests. "It's really ridiculous," I told my father. "But ridiculous or not the obligations of life in Japan take over."

Every Japanese is born with obligations, debts owing, primarily to parents, and this is time that a son has to repay some of them. "It's really important. There are so many people thinking of me and taking the trouble to send gifts. So I must prepare everything perfectly. It's like getting ready for a concert."

For Mr Ishihara, and thousands of young men like him, the wedding ceremony is an important rite of passage, probably more so than for their counterparts in the West.

Paying back what he owes to society and the family becomes possible once he has become a

fully fledged member of that society. At the ceremony he becomes a *shakajin*, a full and responsible member of society.

"I'm presenting myself to people through the ceremony and the party afterwards. The process of preparation is a kind of test of whether or not I can be a *shakajin*."

The service itself is a mélange of eastern and western influences: the room is of virgin pine, laid out rather like the choir of an English church but with Buddhist and Shinto good-luck symbols. He was dressed in a tuxedo and she wore a long white dress.

## Mr Ishihara did allow his father to pay for the honeymoon

The ceremony usually starts with both bride and groom in formal Japanese wear, the bride with the lacquered hair of a geisha shrouded by a white hood which symbolizes her efforts to conceal her "horns" of jealousy. The husband wears a black kimono. Many brides change from the formal kimono to a western-style white wedding dress and then to a cocktail dress for at least part of the reception before they take their leave to join a package group to either Hawaii or Guam.

Some couples now escape the rigours of the formal ceremony in Japan and take off for Australia, or even Britain, where they can go through a simple ceremony.

Mr Ishihara was unusual in his determination to pay for most of the wedding on his own account, and his refusal to borrow money from his father to buy a home, although he did allow him to pay for the honeymoon in London.

Most couples come down with a thud from the fantasy world of dry ice to the reality of a tiny apartment no bigger than a western living room where they will spend the rest of their lives: no ordinary "salary-man" can hope to make the quantum leap to a house once children come along.

## WHAT IT COSTS

There were around 740,000 marriages in 1984 and the average expenses were as follows:

Engagement gifts and related expenses	£2,348
Ceremony, reception and related expenses	£7,083
Gift for ceremonial matchmaker	£363
Furniture, appliances	£5,473
Clothing	£2,176
Initial rental of home	£1,686

# From the fringe to centre stage

Women get a raw deal from the theatre, but a trust chaired by Lady Harlech aims to change all that. Julia Pascal reports

The Christmas pantomime at London's Old Vic theatre this year is no ordinary pantomime. For Louise Page's version of *Beauty and the Beast* is the third production of the Women's Playhouse Trust, which was formed five years ago by women who were frustrated at being denied equal access to the subsidized stage.

The chair of the trust is taken by Lady Harlech. "I was asked to get involved," she says, "and I thought, yes, it's about time women got more space and I don't just mean acting. As far as I can see, the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre are just not interested in women's work. Sir Peter Hall's excuse is that there aren't any good women directors but, judging from what I've seen at the NT, hardly any of the men there can direct either. The

position both at the NT and at the RSC is just horrible and I don't think those men can be allowed to lie back and get away with it."

The trust's aim is to buy a West End theatre as a home for women's work: 15 years of being in a fringe theatre ghetto has led to a desire for larger spaces. Lady Harlech is American and outspoken (and the widow of Lord Harlech). She is also a fearless fund-raiser: "I try to hook in people who might support us. I'm getting to the point where people are frightened to sit next to me at dinner."

Lady Harlech seems to know anybody who is anybody. She was features editor for *Vogue* in New York and London during the late 1960s and 1970s and she is



Lady Harlech: a fearless fund-raiser

famous for her cookery books. She also has a huge entrepreneurial spirit and believes in self-reliance. Last Christmas she produced *Mother Goose* at the Old Vic for a one-night fundraising event in aid of the Theatre Museum, and paired

Sir John Gielgud with Elton John in a dance duet of "Me and My Shadow". "They both loved that," she says.

Lady Harlech is on several other committees, most notably the South Bank Board which takes over the Waterloo arts complex when the GLC is abolished. But for the moment she is concentrating all her energies on the WPT. "What I find depressing when I approach most businessmen is that I have to explain that we're not a bunch of men-haters. I have to tell them that we're not going to eat them for breakfast and then I have to get them to understand that I represent a group whose aim is to produce serious work."

"The problem is that women can't get into the RSC or NT because they're criticized for not having enough experience. But if they can't get in there on those big stages, how can they get that experience? What we want to do is to give them a solid background and offer them a showcase." She also works with the GLC and the Arts Council.

"Michael Birkett of the GLC is our greatest ally and William Rees-Mogg of the Arts Council is very keen on the Women's Playhouse Trust."

The only woman so far to have been allowed a full-scale production on a main stage at the NT is Nancy Meckler who directed Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* at the Lyric Theatre in 1981. No woman has ever directed a Shakespeare on either of the RSC's main stages at Stratford or the Barbican.

Three years ago, the Conference of Women Theatre Directors and Administrators published research into female employment within the theatre. It revealed that the majority of women were concentrated in the service areas as secretaries, publicists, caterers, casting directors and assistants. Now the conference is pressing the Arts Council and the Regional Arts Associations to ensure that their clients institute an equal opportunities policy.

Trevor Nunn, defending himself against accusations of male domination at directorial level, says: "I made Buzz Goodbody an associate director" but, since her suicide in 1974, no other woman has filled this role. He also speaks of how a few months ago he tried to set up a Shakespeare Women's Year in Stratford. It failed. But I will succeed in a year or two from now."

A Shakespeare Women's Year may appear to redress the balance but it is merely a token gesture: women want to be integrated on equal terms into all levels of employment, not fobbed off with special events. Ironically, it was the commercial theatre which allowed the most space to women directors when it gave West End productions earlier this year to Maria Aitken and Julia McKenzie.

But what about the financial problems of taking on a West End enterprise? The subsidized theatre can cushion failures like Sir Peter Hall's *Seberg* with taxpayers' money. But West End managements cannot afford this luxury and Lady Harlech agrees: "Of course it's a risk but, if planned properly, we've got as good a chance as anybody else."

So why is she devoting so much of her time to this large-scale project? "I believe that if you come from a privileged background, you have a duty to give some of it back."

Louise Page's *Beauty and the Beast* is at the Old Vic until Jan 28. The text is published by Methuen, £2.95.

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## FOOTBALL DIARY

Peter Ball

### Watching the flock

Liverpool Last week's belated signing of a football television contract helped to brighten Christmas for Philip Carter, Everton chairman and a leading figure in the current move to redistribute football's income from poor clubs to rich. Inspector Ted Greenwell, Merseyside police's full-time football officer, is not too sure. "I probably shouldn't say this, but everything is going all right at the moment and I just wonder if the return of television will make things deteriorate again, because the hooligans like the publicity."

The camera surveillance systems installed at Goodison Park and Anfield in Liverpool after the shame of Brussels have proved a major factor in keeping things so quiet this season. There have been only two arrests inside Goodison, and only 23 inside and outside both grounds this season so far.

The sensitive, low-key approach adopted by the police under Greenwell, has undoubtedly also played its part. Yesterday, with no trains running, his main concern was ensuring that the 40 coaches bringing Manchester United supporters to Liverpool got in and out of the city unscathed.

For five years Manchester coach firms refused to go to Liverpool, because of the damage often suffered. The provision of a police escort, however, has ensured that United's last visit, for the Milk Cup match at Anfield in November, was quiet. Only two coaches, who failed to follow police directions, were damaged.

### Old scores

It is sometimes easy to overlook the fact that there are three teams on Merseyside. Yesterday Tranmere Rovers celebrated the 50th anniversary of their own place in the record books, the 13-4 defeat of Oldham Athletic on Boxing Day 1935, which still stands as the highest aggregate of goals in a Football League match.

In the process their centre forward, Robert "Bunny" Bell, set an individual scoring record of nine goals - it was beaten by Joe Payne of Luton with 10 only four months later. Yesterday Bell, a sprightly 74-year-old still living in the Wirral, was presented with the match ball, which had been traced by Peter Bishop, the club's programme editor, a local journalist, who found it lying disregarded in a loft.

A prolific scorer, with 104 goals in 114 games for the club, Bell left Tranmere three months later, moving to Everton as understudy to Tommy Lawton, but the memory still lingers. "I should have had 10, because I hit the bar and missed a penalty," he recalls, but he refuses the old rumours that the Oldham players were drunk. "Like us, they couldn't afford it on less than £4 a week."

### Star struck

The Christmas holiday period has often been an unhappy time for Peter Reid, the stocky, combative England midfielder. Seven years ago, on New Year's Day, an injury put him out of the game for a year, and yesterday he was again idle with his leg immobilized following last week's setback as he attempted to come back from the Achilles tendon injury which has caused him to be absent most of this season.

Reid has borne these disappointments with typically Liverpoolian resilience, his mocking humour much in evidence. It is, though, a good thing he is not superstitious.

This week *Match Weekly*, a fan magazine more usually devoted to praising players than burying them, decided to do astrological predictions as its contribution to the Christmas festivities.

Reid's best hope for 1986, it seems, will be to stay in bed. According to *Match Weekly's* tame astrologer, it will be "a make or break" year for Reid, who will be liable to accidents in January and February. After that things briefly look up with the promise that he will be fit for the World Cup, but then the stars foretell that "his career could be in jeopardy" between October 5 and December.

### Away day

Other cities have their history, Liverpool has its football. Militant Tendency, unemployment and the city's financial crisis may exercise some minds and tongues, but the overall passion is still the game.

Rivalries still run deep. While Manchester United fans were flocking into the city, Stan Hey, ardent Liverpool fan, *Times* restaurant critic and co-author of *Hold the Back Page*, was moving in the opposite direction.

Even had Liverpool not been so close by, Hey would not have gone to Goodison. He has succumbed to that act of sacrifice only twice - once on Boxing Day eight years ago at my instigation, when Manchester United won 6-1, which failed to provide the expected solace, and more recently for filming. He still feels guilty about both those transgressions, having been brought up in a household where a Liverpool defeat meant that no football pink was bought because reading about it was too painful.

Club rivalries in Liverpool are a complex matter, however, and Hey says that "since the music died, football is the only thing the people have". It does, it seems, serve as a unifying factor, for in spite of the passion for the game the debate is carried on with a humour and mutual understanding which no longer seems true in other cities.

Every age has its own special forms of imperialism, as does each conqueror. In the 18th and 19th centuries, when the British mastered the art, their method of invasion was to send the navy, then the army, then their administrators and finally their educational system. We Americans now do it differently. We send our television shows.

The method has much to recommend it. There is little resistance, no blood is shed, it is pleasurable and quick. In a few years we shall be able to boast that the sun never sets on an American television show. The method works especially well on those who know little about the western media, such as China. Last year Peking contracted with CBS network for 60 hours of American television shows. Contracts with the other networks, NBC and ABC, are sure to follow. What the Chinese don't know is that their Gang of Four is as nothing compared to our Gang of Three. Given a few years they will turn Peking into Omaha, Nebraska, without a shot being fired.

The Russians have not yet figured out what is happening. When Khrushchev said of the West, "We will bury you", he was thinking in terms of 19th century *realpolitik*. Had he been a more careful student of Marx, he would have remembered that political consciousness is borne on the wings of technology. He might then have grasped that electromagnetic waves penetrate more deeply than armies.

Perhaps Gorbachev understands. But if the Russians keep relying on 19th century forms of imperialism while continuing to make terrible television shows, they may find themselves turning into a Third World country.

One would think that the British would be fully aware of what is happening, but apparently they are not. Americans send not only our television programmes but our *idea* of television. To be sure, when *Dallas* is watched by millions of Britons, we have a significant case of American imperialism, but far more significant is the result of recent public opinion polls showing that two out of three Britons favour advertising on the BBC rather than a higher licence fee.

The American idea of television is that primarily it will create and serve a nation of consumers rather than citizens and deliver them to the advertisers. Every home must therefore have two or more television sets which have something on them continuously day and night. That something must be immediately accessible to all viewers and must always be alluring. This means that complexity must be eschewed and dynamic visual imagery take precedence over language.

In short, everything shown must be entertaining, not only because entertainment is least likely to offend or alienate any segment of consumers, but also to ensure a minimum of sustained, serious thought. For an audience engaged in serious thought is either not paying enough attention to the commercials or paying too much.

An audience not paying enough attention is useless. An audience paying too much is dangerous. It will wonder what the commercials are doing there, what is so amusing about a cheeseburger or how all problems can be solved by a particular drug or machine. Such an audience may even think the most dangerous thought of all: that there is little difference between the commercials and the programme.

## After the Christmas TV surfeit, Neil Postman explains the triumph of the new American colonialism

# They came, we saw, they conquered



What is required, then, is an audience conditioned to minimal mental activity when watching television; moreover, that the audience remain stupefied when not watching television. This can be achieved by packaging all public discourse - politics, education, religion and news - as entertainment.

Serious cultural business is obliterated by the simple expedient of giving it the same form and texture as the 30-second commercial or situation comedy. On American television there is no significant difference between political messages and commercial messages. The editing, the music, the theatrical techniques are the same.

Above all, they use the same characters. That is why Americans do not think it peculiar that Geraldine Ferraro, the 1984 Democratic vice-presidential candidate, does Diet-Pepsi commercials, or that senators and congressmen hawk the virtues of American Express cards. Nor do we find it peculiar that our political figures appear in soap operas. For example, Henry Kissinger and Gerald Ford have taken part in *Dynasty*. Jesse Jackson and George McGovern have hosted the variety show *Saturday Night Live*.

The same principle of trivialising public discourse operates in newscasts. Out TV news readers are the handsome group of people in America and become as famous as film stars. Because newscasts are packaged as entertainment, Americans do not recoil in outrage when a commercial is placed between a story about an earthquake in Mexico and one about street fighting in Lebanon. Americans do not judge it irrelevant when celebrities appear on religious programmes. Educational shows for children emphasize that learning and entertainment are inseparable.

As a corollary to this relentless entertainment, all authentic ideological issues are made to appear trivial, evanescent or merely amusing. People must direct their energies and thoughts to the one thing that counts: the existential pleasures of buying things. American things.

The US exports, worldwide, almost 250,000 hours of programmes, including such favourites as *Dynasty*, *Dallas*, *Sesame Street*, and *Miami Vice*. The content is designed to make the world think America attractive: the form is designed to make the world look, feel, respond and buy like Americans. We hope to entice the infidels to give up their native culture, diversity, point of view, heroes and values.

China, as noted, has shown a willingness to begin the process. In Latin America, the process is well advanced. Canada has been where we want it for decades. Western Europe will probably be there in five years. West Germany, for example, has already licensed its first commercial cable station. The recent national elections in Sweden suggest that the Swedes are anxious to be colonized.

With a commercial network already in place, and a population abundantly served by video cassettes, Britain, apparently, is ready to surrender, just as America itself surrendered. For there's the rub: the first country to be invaded by American television was America itself. For there was once a time when America was among the most literate of nations, characterized by rich diversity, intelligent moral conviction and creative energies that were an inspiration to the world.

But now we watch an average of eight hours of amusing television each day. During his lifetime, an American will see approximately two million amusing commercials, at the rate of about 1,000 a week. Our largest city, with a population of over eight million, has only three daily newspapers, two of them amusing picture newspapers. Our newest national newspaper, *USA Today*, is sold on the streets in amusing receptacles that look like TV sets.

Not so amusing is the fact that, according to a recent estimate, 60 million Americans - almost one-third of our entire population - is illiterate. And a recent report from the Librarian of Congress suggests that we may have at least the same number who are illiterate (people who can read but don't).

Among democratic nations, we have the lowest percentage of voters in national elections; we have a former Hollywood movie actor as our president; our businessmen have apparently lost faith in capitalist ideology, since they now believe it is better to improve the image of their products than the products themselves; our architecture, supermarkets, airports, theatres, schools and highways have become sufficiently homogenized to mute any energies that may come from regional diversity.

Invaders are not supposed to tell their victims what is in store for them. When one does, the word for it is treason, and I have already said too much. Instead, I shall end by saying to our British friends, in my most patriotic tone: "Welcome to the Age of American Television. Have a wonderful time."

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The author is Professor of Communication Arts and Sciences at New York University. His book, *Amusing Ourselves to Death*, will be published by Heinemann on February 10 (£9.95).

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Simon Winchester

## Britons kept at arm's length

The hunting has been taken down in the Bahamas, and the dusty streets of Grenada and St Lucia are again their old somnolent selves. The Queen's visit to the Caribbean is already only a pleasant memory, captured by 10,000 instantanics and preserved in a dozen souvenir supplements that have already started to yellow in the steamy heat.

But in some half-forgotten island towns of the Windwards and the Leewards - towns with names like Plymouth, The Valley, Road Town and Grand Turk - there is today a sense of wistful puzzlement. Why, the locals wonder, did Her Majesty not manage to drop by? Why did her advisers at the Foreign Office and her courtiers at the Palace not think it worthwhile? After all, they muse, we are British subjects, living in British towns, on British islands. Do we not owe any longer?

Each town, as a regular player of Trivial Pursuit or demon, at geography or philosophy might realize, is the capital of a British West Indian colony - a place that has not yet achieved, nor perhaps has wanted, its independence from the motherland. Montserrat is one such; so is Anguilla, the Virgin Islands and the group known as the Turks and Caicos Islands - each one a British possession, complete with a plumed-helmeted governor in a magnificent government house, whose people long for some sign of affection and interest from home.

But, it seems, the colonials who remain are unvisited, unregarded, dismissed (so the locals believe) as of little importance to the greater needs and desires of Britain.

We have 16 colonies left in the rum of our once-great empire, little sun-bleached houses of islands and peninsulas dotted round every ocean. (Pedants will delight in the knowledge that the sun still, technically, does not set on Elizabeth's dominions for as the flag goes down over Anguilla, so it is hoisted upon Pitcairn, and as it is lowered over the Falklands, so it revells sounds to the Gurbas in Hong Kong.)

And although Her Majesty has recently been to some of her colonies - (the Cayman Islands, three years ago), Princess Margaret has made the occasional foray (Bermuda, last autumn) and members of the order branches of the Royal Family have stepped briefly on the beaches of others (Prince Andrew has been to St Helena and to East Falkland Island), for the most part the establishment shuns the relics of empire as though wishing, to forget responsibilities that had relevance in more glorious days than these. The colonies seem to have become, in short, a bit of an embarrassment.

But there are still people out there - more than five and a quarter

million of them at the last count (though all but 150,000 of those live in the colony of Hong Kong). All of them are nominally British, many are poor or are in some way wanting, and most are bewildered by the scant attention paid to them by their rulers back home. And all, it seems, suffer from the sort of treatment that would never be meted out to those fortunate enough to be living in Britain itself.

The people of St Helena, for example, have been waiting for an eternity for someone to build them an airstrip - but Whitehall consistently says no, the cost is too high, and urges them (despite the best efforts of the governor) to make do with the elderly ship that wallows to the island eight times a year. The 44 benighted souls who choose to live on Pitcairn see a vessel only twice a year, if they are lucky, and must rely on the vagaries of a ham radio link to transmit their needs to Whitehall.

The British subjects on Tortola still have corporal (and capital) punishment on their statute books. And the 2,000 former inhabitants of our one colony in the Indian Ocean, Diego Garcia, are still living miles away from their homes on the island of Mauritius, simply because the British tossed them out to make way for a US military base and have ever since refused to let them return.

None of the colonials - save the Gibraltarians and, after a hurried post-war law change, the Falklanders - is permitted full citizenship of the United Kingdom. None of the 16 colonies has more than the most perfunctory representation in London. Unlike the case of the remaining French and Dutch colonies, no MP is elected for any British overseas possession, and none but an army of uninterested bureaucrats speaks in London for the needs of any one colony. The Treasury pays their bills; true - though with bad grace - and Whitehall publicly curses their irritating existence, and privately wishes heartily to be rid of the lot of them.

An inglorious end, one might say, to a once glorious empire. How much more neatly, and with how much more humanity, have our neighbours across the channel dealt with their small flag-end of empire (save, of course, for their testing of the force of *frappe* on Maroua atoll). Why do we still have no policy, no ideas, on what to do with these most distant possessions other than to sigh with exasperation and wish them all to sink into the ocean? Small problems, true, but as the South Atlantic war of three years ago displayed, out of small problems can large dilemmas grow.

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Simon Winchester's Outposts was published by Hodder & Stoughton in October.

Frank Johnson

## Over the wall, a glimpse of Santa

West Berlin, as we know it, is a German invention, imported into Britain in the early 19th century, and made irrevocable by the German, Prince Albert. But there are crucial differences between the British and German Christmas. This year, as every year, the German started even earlier. Children left their shoes outside the door on December 5. Overnight, Saint Nicholas filled them with sweets, December 6 being his day.

Father Christmas's duties are divided between that saint, and someone called *Der Weihnachtsmann* - the three days of Christmas Eve to Boxing Day being known, not as Christmas, but as *Weihnachten* (literally: consecration nights).

This *Weihnachtsmann* arrives to distribute his presents on Christmas Eve. The sweet-filled stocking is not part of the German Christmas, although virtually all other forms of consumption are.

There is, on the face of it, one other thing different about a German, which anyone visiting Berlin is easily able to examine. Seventeen million Germans are citizens of a state allegedly inspired by the ideals of a German who explained that religion was the opiate of the people. Admittedly, Marx has been able to impose his views on these 17 million only as a result of the Russians: a race of which he seemed to have had a low opinion. But presumably the rulers of East Germany are Marxists and therefore atheists. To what extent, then, was Christmas going on beyond that wall?

Looking eastward from Checkpoint Charlie, early in the evening, last weekend, the signs did not look promising. There was a Christmas tree. But that was at the American control booth. Was this the westernmost Christmas tree in Berlin? Behind was the neon of West Berlin. Ahead, apart from the East German lights illuminating the wall, all was gloom.

But the contrast with West Berlin was not because it was Christmas. It was because it was East Berlin. The area beyond the wall is rather difficult to make lively. Even the East German authorities probably find something inhibiting about watchtowers. Out of sight of the wall, and a few hundred yards into the capital of East Germany, matters improved. There was a 40 foot Christmas tree outside the city hall, and another outside the university. Lights were festooned along the Unter Den Linden, and across the Alexanderplatz.

An effigy of the *Weihnachtsmann*, who wears the same uniform as Father Christmas, hung behind the bar in one of the big hotels - smiling tolerantly down on the low-level

police informers who frequent such places and strike up conversations with foreigners by pretending to be dissidents. We learned that on Christmas Eve there would be services at the Protestant cathedral, a heavy, Bismarckian building reminiscent of the Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, and at the Catholic Cathedral, a less brooding building inspired by the Pantheon.

While awaiting the demise of religion which Marx presumably believed would be one of the benefits of socialism, East Germany's rulers tolerate the churches. They do not believe that religion will ever cause them as much trouble as it has their colleagues in Poland. In western official in East Berlin described the churches there as a "safety valve". The key, he said, was not mind people talking about "peace" and "human rights", in a way that is vaguely censorious of the government, provided they do it through the churches, and provided the censoriousness is indeed vague.

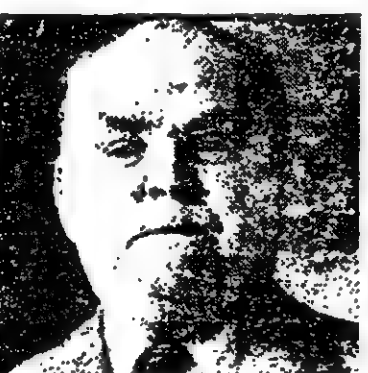
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The consequences of trying to suppress religion might provoke the feared "political" church, as in Poland.

So Christmas survived beyond the wall. Indeed, most of the wooden Christmas dolls and candleholders sold in the special Christmas street markets in every West German town are made in East Germany, and exported for western currency. That means there are not as many on view in East Germany. The East's Christmas trees are a bit threadbare too. That is because the best are sold to the West. Also, the toy shops lack the computerized games and precision-engineered train sets available in the smallest West German town.

After a while the visitor decides that, for the first time in his life, he is witnessing that vaunted, non-commercialized Christmas. If Marx had not come out against religion, it could be held up as another triumph of East Germany. On the other hand, he could reconcile himself to the fact that Berlin Christmas by saying that the festival was originally a pagan one.

## James Fergusson on a pioneering collection of modern literature



Orwell, Connolly, Huxley and Powell: giving the collection an Old Etonian backbone

## Another first for Eton

Once upon a time, when they were prosperous and unselfconscious, the British cut a dash as book collectors. These days they are uninspired in their choice of what to collect and lack imagination, courage or flair in its pursuit. Their meanness is a byword.

This is true of institutions and individual collectors alike. Institutions' buying policies are safe and parochial, gap-filling rather than creative. In this they are unlike their American counterparts.

Aided by tax concessions, but in any case much more uninhibited, the Americans have even made modern first edition collecting look respectable. The collecting of books, as of anything else, is pointless unless it can be justified somehow as a contribution to knowledge. The collecting of "modern first editions", being the most vulgarish end of the market, is also the hardest to justify. Why do people pay enormous sums for the first appearances of P. G. Wodehouse's *The Pothunters* or Ian Fleming's *Casino Royale*? What contribution can such collecting make to anything?

Many American libraries have "special collections" of 20th-century literature; but, because it is controversial and a risk business, there is hardly a single British one. An unlikely and instructive exception is to be found not in a public or university library but at Eton. Not the long-established library of the foundation either, the internationally known College Library, but its poor relation, the unheard of School Library.

Before 1821 pupils at Eton had no access to any library at all: College Library was the exclusive preserve of the provost and fellows. In that year a cheekily independent "Boys' Library" was opened; 30 years later it was formally accepted by the authorities and incorporated under a new name as the central academic reference and lending library.

School Library had no section of

rare or special books, although it acquired a number of oddities by gift, the best of which was the original manuscript of Gray's *Elegy*. Until 1967, when Michael Meredith, the present schoolmaster-librarian, was appointed, no money had been spent beyond the call of duty.

Now a busy head of department and housemaster, Meredith is an example to collectors and curators. An ex-collector of Byron with considerable holdings of Browning, he is a restless evangelist for collecting in general and the collecting of 20th-century literature in particular. "You have to take a risk," he says.

Helped by John Carter, an Eton fellow, he set about giving the library a new dimension. They began by collecting the works of five modern Etonian authors. It was an obvious and a parochial project, although Eton is fortunate in its parish: the authors they chose (and more were later added) were George Orwell, Anthony Powell, Cyril

Connolly, Henry Green and Aldous Huxley. A very well-constructed collection of these authors - and the collection is well constructed, rich in interest and including many manuscripts, letters and presentation copies - would be of value in itself as a 20th century literary record.

What distinguishes Meredith's effort is that he ventured beyond Eton's easy confines to the world outside. The impulse came when an American Old Etonian left the school a small Thomas Hardy collection. The three tea-chests of unknown treasure, comprising a good if modest haul of first editions, one or two letters from Hardy and the manuscript of *Men who March* (now a book), became the basis of what is now an important archive of books, manuscripts and ephemera consulted by scholars from all over the world.

Since then Meredith's apparently random buying has assumed a coherence. Between them, his Etonian and non-Etonian authors

Hardy, Huxley and Powell: papers that will help teachers illustrate the creative process

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## A VERY LATE WARNING SYSTEM

The crisis over Westland helicopters has in recent days overshadowed that over the Nimrod, an early warning (AEW) aircraft - no doubt to the relief of GEC which, in differing ways, is deeply involved in both. But the respite should be only temporary, because as a lesson in how not to do things it is scarcely less depressing.

That it has not become more of a cause célèbre than it has, is perhaps because few of its hands on their heads and say: "I told you so." Politicians have not in the past found that an inhibiting factor. But the fact remains that when the Wilson Government commissioned GEC and British Aerospace in the spring of 1977 to develop an AEW variant of the successful Nimrod maritime patrol aircraft, the decision looked unquestionably right.

The RAF needed a new fleet of AEW machines to replace its existing force of 11 elderly Shackletons. The emergence of a new generation of Soviet bombers capable of flying fast, low-level, long-range sorties against the West underlined the need to buy the best available - especially at a time when Nato was jittery over the dangers of a short-warning war.

The best available looked in fact to be the American AWACS (an acronym for Airborne Warning and Control System) - a derivative of the Boeing 707, packed with advanced radar which from a height of 40,000 feet could peer several hundred miles over the horizon. Already being developed for the United States, AWACS was being vigorously sold to Nato as a Euro-package, to patrol the 3,000-mile frontier with the East. The original idea was that Britain should join the package.

It didn't, because BAe and

GEC persuaded the Ministry of Defence that they could produce a Nimrod-based alternative which, though smaller than AWACS, would in fact be superior over the sea. While management and unions, worried about jobs, battered the Government into submission at home, the European allies in Brussels kept failing to make up their minds. With the RAF increasingly anxious over the airworthiness of its Shackletons, Britain it seems had little option but to go it alone.

As things turned out, the Americans were so anxious to sell AWACS that they agreed almost 100 per cent offset arrangements with countries like West Germany. By contrast, Nimrod's costs have risen to around £900 million and the programme is running five years behind schedule. What has gone wrong?

Whitehall's explanation is that GEC was wildly optimistic over its ability to deliver the goods. GEC argues that under the cost-plus contract negotiated it could act only in response to the MOD's bidding and that had the latter been able to make up its mind - and had it not been so obsessed by false economy, Nimrod would now be flying.

As it is, it remains inferior in two fundamental respects. One is in its data-handling capacity. The other is the inadequacy of its radar over land where it is very good at distinguishing between, say, a slow-moving enemy helicopter and a family Mercedes on the autobahn.

Neither problem is insurmountable. The first could have been solved at the outset for a mere £10m by investing in a superior computer. The second is more difficult, since the size of the Comet air-frame on which Nimrod is based does not allow as large a radar dish as that

borne by AWACS. But that too, says GEC, could be solved, given the fixed-price contract it now seeks to finish the job.

This may be so - and a mutually acceptable contract might emerge from the next confrontation between ministry and company in the New Year. But a training aircraft will still not be ready for up to a year - and an operational model for twelve months after that. Yet both these failings were foreseeable at the time that the original deal was concluded eight years ago.

Defence procurement is a high-risk area. The pace of technological change, the shifting balance of military advantage, inflation and competing pressures at home will ensure that it stays that way. But one incontrovertible truth rises above the barrage of mutual recrimination now being fired between Horse Guards Avenue and the GEC headquarters in Stanhope Gate. This is that if the Ministry of Defence and one of its prime contractors cannot do business together more efficiently than this it amounts to nothing less than a national disgrace.

The Nimrod story is only the latest in a long line of equipment programmes which have had to be cancelled - or continued at escalating cost to the taxpayer. In this case the ministry would seem to have left itself with little option but to authorise completion of the deal. But any contract now agreed should be watertight, with penalties for overruns - and progress should be closely monitored on both sides. MFs might want to find out why monitoring in the past has apparently been so lax.

This ugly duckling may never become a swan. But somehow we have to get it into the air and see it fly.

## UNHAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Today someone, somewhere, may be raising his glass to six years of Soviet domination of Afghanistan. But as the anniversary slip by, genuine celebrants become harder and harder to find. In the USSR itself Mr Brezhnev's Christmas adventure of 1979 is now widely seen as a disaster. For most Afghans it has long been a tragedy.

The last weeks of 1985 have witnessed some encouraging developments among the states of the South Asian sub-continent. The Dhaka summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) was a realistically cautious effort at establishing a regional forum wherein the seven members involved can begin to foster a greater degree of mutual confidence and trust. Even more encouraging was the news of last week's meeting in Delhi between Mr Rajiv Gandhi and President Zia. After decades of suspicion between their countries, their six-point agreement included an undertaking not to attack each other's nuclear installations and an understanding aimed at curbing cross-border terrorism.

All the more depressing then, that the latest round of "proximity" talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan at Geneva should yield no tangible signs of progress. The sticking point revolves around the timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. Pakistan refuses to recognise the Kabul regime until an unequivocal detailed plan for Soviet withdrawal is presented. The Soviet surrogates headed by Babrak Karmal will countenance no mention of relinquishing their dependence on the Red Army until they receive full diplomatic recognition from Islamabad.

Six years after the Soviet invasion, is there any hope of a successful diplomatic settle-

ment? The UN envoy at Geneva, Mr Diego Cordovez claims he has put forward proposals which are designed to breakdown the wall of mistrust before the two governments resume negotiations in late February 1986. Sadly, one has learnt to be sceptical of the UN envoy's over-optimism. Way back in April 1983 Cordovez claimed that 95 per cent of the settlement had been agreed on. Yet the talks still remain deadlocked.

It would be naive, of course, to imagine that hope rests purely on the two governments represented at Geneva. The super-power dimension is inescapable. The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, has given strong hints of Moscow's putative desire for a political settlement following an extensive exchange of words between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev at the Geneva summit. Two weeks ago, Washington demonstrated evidence of its flexibility in a letter to the UN Secretary-General, giving formal notification of a pledge to end American aid to the mujahidin guerrillas in the event of a Soviet decision to pull out its combat troops. There are ample reasons however, to suspect that any new spirit of compromise by the United States will not be reflected by the Kremlin in 1986.

The Soviet participation in Geneva talks via the puppet Karmal regime appears to be little more than a ploy to soften international criticism while the Red Army gets on with the job of subjugating the country. At the centre of Soviet ideology is the belief that the armies of socialism march in one direction only. In other words, Moscow will refuse to consider a withdrawal until such time that the present regime in Kabul can survive on its own. Given the current state of

the Afghan armed forces, that may be never. A dramatic reversal of the Afghan revolution would be a distinctly unpalatable proposition given the resources expended by the Soviet military.

Last weekend's Pravda article "Expanding the base of the Afghan revolution", calls for increased dialogue between the Karmal government and the guerrilla fighters. It is tempting to interpret the statement as evidence of a major shift in Soviet policy, but it is by no means an entirely new development. One of the Kremlin's main motivations in toppling Hafizullah Amin in 1979 was to correct his "ultra-leftist excesses", by replacing him with a figurehead who might quell the fierce anti-communist opposition. In spite of this, the various attempts at placating the embittered Islamic groups by endeavouring to include them in councils of consultation have so far met with little success.

Time still looks to be on Moscow's side. Thousands of Afghan men and women have been sent to the Soviet Union for training and indoctrination. Key army and administrative posts are being filled by a new generation of communist cadres. This will undoubtedly hinder the resistance by making it more difficult for them to recruit valuable informers.

This factor alone will, of course, not prevent the mujahidin from continuing their spirited assaults. Their goal is not a victorious march on Kabul, but the success of a strategy which aims to make the continued occupation so costly that the Soviets will negotiate, or preferably, depart for good. It is, regrettably, an inspiration which shows little sign of being fulfilled.

## Student grants

From Mr R. E. Crum.  
Sir, There are many scandals concerning student grants and the highest is the fact that is omitted both from public discussion and your own leading article today (December 18).

Why does Government continue to hand over publicly-financed resources to private industry without charging for them? "Here is a fully-trained chemist/computer analyst/translator/engineer. Please accept with our good wishes. No, of course there is no charge to pay."

It is well known that British industry has a pitiful record on training. Other countries levy a specific tax on all firms to finance training. Yet here the Government blithely gives away a public resource, albeit a resource that may have been financed by a compulsory levy on parents.

This failure to require firms to pay is directly contradictory to the

Government's clearly expressed political beliefs. The fact that it is also condoned by omission in your leading article merely reinforces the feeling that private industry has only one objective: a private gravy train.

Yours faithfully,  
R. E. CRUM,  
89 Hall Road,  
Norwich,  
Norfolk.  
December 18.

## Occupational pensions

From the Director of the Centre for Policy on Ageing

Sir, Your enthusiasm for occupational pensions (leading article, December 17) overlooks the fact that such pensions provide a reasonable retirement income only for those people who have been fortunate enough to enjoy continuous, well-paid work.

Occupational pensions provide very little for the low paid, for people who have had intermittent

careers, notably women with family commitments, or for those unlucky enough to experience long periods of unemployment.

Can it be right that, at the age of, say, 75, two retired people receive widely differing incomes because, 20 years earlier, one had been a company executive, the other a nurse whose career had been derailed whilst she raised a family?

Retired people fulfil a national obligation not to compete for scarce jobs in a shrinking labour market, just as children do. It is time we recognized the need for more "equality of opportunity" in retirement, just as we support the principle for young people. And that principle demands a generous State-provided social wage for older people, applicable to all regardless of occupation, or lack of it.

Yours faithfully,  
ERIC MIDWINTER, Director,  
Centre for Policy on Ageing,  
Nuffield Lodge Studio,  
Regent's Park NW1,  
December 20.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Grim prospect for schools in 1986

From the General Secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers

Sir, Congratulations on your perceptive second leader of December 16, providing an end-of-year summary of the real issues behind the teachers' pay dispute.

What is at stake now is indeed what was at stake at this time last year: a clear definition of teachers' responsibilities and higher salaries for those able most effectively to carry them out. If some kind of fudged settlement is made to secure a pause in industrial action which leaves those issues unaddressed, the prospects are grim for the education system in 1986.

Since the Professional Association of Teachers joined the Burnham committee at the beginning of this decade the same depressing story has been repeated year after year in pay negotiations. A battle has been fought, bringing disruption to schools and a relatively small rise in teachers' pay hovering around the prevailing inflation rate.

Anyone who thinks teachers' salaries will ultimately be restored to a professional level by the methodology of annual pay bargaining is blind to experience and reality. All that such a process demonstrates is the law of inevitable escalation, which says that the amount of disruption necessary next year to secure something like the inflation rate will be greater than the quantity required this year.

In view of the operation of this law, none should be surprised that the three months of disruption schools endured in 1984 have been followed by ten months of disruption in 1985 and look like being succeeded by uninterrupted industrial action throughout 1986.

It is easy to forget that everything was going to be different this year. For many months, everyone was talking about restructuring teachers' pay and attempting some kind of contractual definition of teachers' responsibilities. Unless and until we get back into that negotiating

territory, there will be no peace in our schools in our time.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER DAWSON,  
General Secretary,  
Professional Association of Teachers,  
99 Friar Gate,  
Derby,  
December 18.

From Mr Steve Bundred

Sir, In your reports (December 19) on next year's rate-support grant settlement there was no reference to the Government's treatment of the country's biggest education authority.

Just in case anyone might be under the impression that the Inner London Education Authority has somehow escaped the Government's wrath may I point out that next year ILEA faces an imposed cut of 3/4p in its rate precept - and once again will receive no block grant. We get nothing out of the additional money being made available to other London authorities.

I fail to understand how the Secretary of State for Education can propose such unrealistic spending and precept levels for ILEA and still seriously expect us to maintain inner London's education services.

I am equally mystified that Sir Keith Joseph can suggest that we dip into our reserves when we have already clearly told him that our available reserves are approaching zero.

Unless Sir Keith is prepared to wake up to the enormous costs of coping with inner London's education problems - not to mention the added burden of having to take over additional services when the GLC goes - education in inner London faces serious and lasting damage.

Yours faithfully,  
STEVE BUNDRED, Chairman,  
Finance Committee,  
Inner London Education Authority,  
Members' Lobby,  
The County Hall, SE1,  
December 20.

### Test ban treaty

From Dr J. K. Leggett

Sir, In your editorial (December 20) on the comprehensive test ban treaty you remark that "Dependence on tests has to some extent decreased through advances in computer simulation..." This opinion is manifestly out of step with current thinking in the United States weapons laboratories.

The Director of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory testified before the US House of Representatives in September, arguing that a CTBT was not in America's national security interests for reasons which included the following:

"...we have yet to develop, let alone visualize, a facility which is capable of replicating nuclear tests. It is extremely difficult to simulate the extreme conditions within an exploding nuclear weapon: velocities of a million miles an hour, temperatures of ten million degrees, and time scales of a few billionths of a second..."

Another Lawrence scientist argued in the August, 1983, edition of *Physics Today* that "...weapons scientists do not understand some fundamental phenomena that bear on the performance of nuclear explosives. The nuclear weapons laboratories

possess the country's most impressive computer resources and a very impressive cadre of theoretical physicists. Yet there are sometimes substantial discrepancies between calculation and experimental results: the mathematical models are just not adequate to predict reality..."

A comprehensive test ban treaty would, as you say in your editorial, "...provide some impetus to the painfully slow progress over arms control..." There was no need for you to infer that computer simulation would render it somewhat academic.

The critical issue is that there is now a drift towards development of increasingly accurate weapons which might before long persuade military planners that a pre-emptive first strike is on the cards, or worse still, leave the opposition to fear that this was so. Our fate then would be even more precariously in the balance than it is today. A ban on further testing would, evidently, halt that process in its tracks.

Sincerely,  
J. K. LEGGETT,  
Imperial College of Science and Technology,  
Prince Consort Road,  
South Kensington, SW7,  
December 20.

### Cost of burial

From Mr R. G. Hussey

Sir, As executor of the estate of a recently deceased lady of 93 years I find that the normal death grant of £30, poor enough in itself (I quote) "in the case of females born between July 5, 1888 and July 5, 1898" is halved to £15!

Unfortunately there is not a corresponding halving of the cost of a funeral for such people.

The number of ladies to whom this would apply must now be very small and I would have thought a munificent Government would now be prepared to forgo the small amount saved by this Draconian measure.

Yours faithfully,  
R. G. HUSSEY,  
10 Brockhampton Park,  
Brockhampton,  
Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire,  
December 16.

### Investing in ships

From the President of the General Council of British Shipping

Sir, Your "Business editorial" on December 7 pointed out, quite correctly, that the shipping industry is suffering from over-tonnage. It went on to draw the false conclusion that the British shipping industry is mistaken in asking the Chancellor for improved tax allowances for buying second-hand ships.

The fact is that the maintenance of shipping services requires a steady flow of modern, fuel-efficient ships to replace older tonnage. The ships do not have to be new, just good. And in the present depressed state of the shipping market excellent, modern second-hand ships are available at attractive prices.

The alternatives for an owner are to buy new if he can afford it (which, of course, adds to the over-tonnage) or to pull out altogether.

If a country which has the maritime equivalent of clapped-out old bangers feels able to encourage their scrapping, we raise a cheer. But in the UK the prime need is for better incentives to invest in ships, new or second-hand, so that British owners may seize opportunities now available and have some chance of remaining competitive against protected and subsidised foreign operators.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN SHAW, President,  
General Council of British Shipping,  
30-32 St. Mary Axe, EC3,  
December 10.

### No representation

From Mr Richard W. Quavie

Sir, Now that the Transport and General Workers' Union have accepted the principle of direct elections, can the Government consider other bodies which would benefit from direct elections?

These could include area health authorities, school governing bodies, together with the multitude of joint boards spawned by the abolition of the metropolitan councils.

Why should union members enjoy the privileged position of direct elections, whilst the remainder suffer the consequences of indirectly elected bodies affecting our daily lives?

Maybe even the Chairman of the Conservative Party will one day be elected by the members.

Yours faithfully,  
R. W. QUAVIE,  
12 Hollis Lane,  
Keighley, West Yorkshire,  
December 3.

### Burdens on business

From Mr Hyman Arbeid

Sir, I listened this morning to Lord Young on the radio explaining the help that the Government were giving to small businesses. He cited as an example the simplification or abolition of planning applications for alterations to and change of use of premises.

However, there are many more involved and complicated statutes, statutory instruments, regulations and procedures relating to value-added tax, to income tax, to health, hygiene and fire regulations, and to local by-laws which often involve the small businessman in substantial expenditure in the employment of lawyers, accountants, surveyors and architects.

The Government departments concerned with the legislation do issue guidelines, but rarely are they written in such style as makes easy reading for the small businessman. Frequently even the professional advisers of small businessmen need to resort to technical divisions or tribunals for practical interpretation of the law, and not always with success.

Whilst the drafting of legislation remains in the hands of people far removed from its practical application, so the burdens and complications of carrying on business will remain.

Yours faithfully,  
HYMAN ARBEID,  
Fesobon and Arbeid, chartered accountants,  
63 and 65 Piccadilly, W1,  
December 11.

### Learning lessons from the Swiss

From Mr W. Farr  
Sir, On returning to England after living in Switzerland for many years I spent some time at a Cambridge college as a visiting fellow. At dinner one night my neighbour asked me in a slightly condescending way, "Well, what has Switzerland ever produced of benefit to the world?"

I cited the usual names - Klee and Hodler, Le Corbusier and Giacometti, Piaget and Jung, Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Henri Dunant. My questioner was not impressed.

This started me thinking more about the Swiss experience that my family and I had taken so casually for granted for twenty-five years. We British like to regard Switzerland as a pretty country of watchmakers and chocolate manufacturers, entertaining world statesmen - and half the world's Press - from time to time. It is not to be taken seriously, although we are quite fond of it and would visit it more often if it were not so expensive.

Is there anything more to say? There is. Switzerland has some lessons for us. To begin with, while it is a very rich country, everyone is well off. Why? The Swiss seem to enjoy working. Some time ago, they rejected, in a referendum, a proposal that the working week should be reduced from 44 to 40 hours.

Switzerland is a very beautiful country. Its factories, railway sidings, warehouses, and rubbish dumps are discreetly tucked away in the industrial quarter of the towns. Nowhere in Switzerland does one see the vast vistas of industrial Belsenheim created by our first and second economic revolutions, or the inner-city wastelands we have here.

There is no great divide between two major political parties, quarrelling incessantly, reversing the other's policies and legislation when in power, and creating ever deeper class divisions.

There is no great expenditure on defence. Money is poured into the infrastructure - roads, railways, bridges, hospitals, parks, and beach maintenance, without mention of public spending targets or "creeping socialism".

There is no central despotism, no rate-capping, no overriding of cantonal and communal rights.

There are no strong leaders, no political personality cults. The President of the Swiss Confederation was invited one day to inspect the European centre for nuclear research (Cern) at Geneva. He arrived in an ordinary Swiss bus, with no police convoy, no helicopters, no Jaguar cars, no pomp and little media coverage.

Swiss children are taught at school to be good citizens. Parks are placed "under the protection of the citizen". The citizen protects his park. There is no vandalism.

Children walk to school and back on their own, often in the dark of winter. They are not molested.

I would suggest that those who wish Britain well and have the power to influence events here should read, or reread, *The Social Contract*, that masterpiece by Geneva's great citizen, Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Yours faithfully,  
W. FARR,  
Highfield East,  
Sedlescombe,  
East Sussex,  
December 5.

### Heavy horses

From Mr Philip Ryder-Davies

Sir, John Young's timely article (December 5) on the preservation of rare breeds of farm animals said that three breeds of heavy horses, Suffolk, Cleydesdale and Cleveland, now have their own societies. In fact these societies are old-established.

The Suffolk Punch, as far as we know, is probably the oldest breed of heavy horse today. Horses of this type being described in the 15th century. In pre-tractor days Suffolks existed in many thousands, but the large arable farms of East Anglia were ideal for mechanization. In 1962 only twelve foals were born.

We now have a breeding population of 90 mares and 25 stallions, but, unlike the other breeds of heavy horse, there is virtually no reserve population in other parts of the world, as there are only scattered Suffolks in Europe. In Pakistan (where they have been used for breeding army horses), and a small population in the United States of America.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP RYDER-DAVIES,  
Secretary, Suffolk Horse Society,  
6 Church Street,  
Woodbridge,  
Suffolk,  
December 11.

### Church and State

From Mrs Dora Nash

Sir, Clifford Longley's exhortation to the Church of England (feature, December 9) could also serve as a timely warning against the bourgeoisie and Anglicanization of the Catholic Church in this country.

It is the "rich folk culture" he describes which draws on traditional perceptions of authority and certainty in the Church and which is now threatened with extinction by equivocation in the teaching of doctrine, puritanism in Church architecture and banality in the liturgy.

Mr Longley is mistaken, however, in thinking that this "culture" is entirely Irish. Many working-class Catholics are English to the core, descendants of the landless labourers who moved into the towns from the Catholic countryside after the enclosures.

Yours faithfully,  
DORA NASH,  
4 Wantage Road,  
Wallingford,  
Oxfordshire,  
December 9.

## ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 27 1963

This article caused a minor sensation - The Times writing on pop music! News of it spread and for months after requests for a copy were received from all over the world.

### What Songs the Beatles Sang...

From Our Music Critic

The outstanding English composers of 1963 must seem to have been John Lennon and Paul McCartney, the talented young musicians from Liverpool who have been composing the country since last Christmas, whether performed by their own group, the Beatles, or by the numerous other teams of English troubadours that they also supply with songs...

THREE OF THEM COMPOSE

The strength of character in pop songs seems, and quite understandably, to be determined usually by the number of composers involved: when three or four people are required to make the original tunesmith's work publicly presentable, it is unlikely to retain much individuality or to wear very well. The virtue of the Beatles' repertoire is that, apparently, they do it themselves: three of the four are composers, they are versatile instrumentalists, and when they do borrow a song from another repertoire, their treatment is idiosyncratic. As when Paul McCartney wrote "Till There Was You" from *The Music Man*, a cool, easy, tasteful version of this ballad, quite without artificial sentimentality.

Their noisy items are the ones that arouse teenage excitement. Gloriously in the morning, generally out of fashion these days, and even a song about "Merry" sounds fundamentally quite cheerful: the slow, sad song about "That Boy", which figures prominently in Beatles programmes, is expressively unusual for its lugubrious mood, but harmonically it is one of their most intriguing, with its chains of pandictic clusters, and the sentiment is acceptable because voiced cleanly and crisply. But harmonic interest is typical of their quicker songs too, and one gets the impression that they think simultaneously of harmony and melody, so firmly are the major tonic seventh and ninth built into their tunes, and the flat submediant key switches, so natural is the Aeolian cadence at the end of "Not a Second Time" (the chord progression which ends *Maxwell's Song of the Evening*).

Their subtlest switches from C major into A flat major, and to a lesser extent mediant ones (e.g., the octave ascent in the famous "I want to hold your hand") are a trademark of Lennon-McCartney songs - they do not figure much in other pop repertoires, or in the Beatles' arrangements of borrowed material - and show signs of becoming a mannerism. The other trademark of their compositions is a firm and purposeful bass line with a musical life of its own: how Lennon and McCartney divide their creative responsibilities I have yet to discover, but it is perhaps significant that Paul is the bass guitarist of the group. It may also be significant that George Harrison's song "Don't Bother Me" is harmonically a good deal more primitive, though it is nicely enough presented.

WELCOME VARIETY

I suppose it is the sheer loudness of the music that appeals to Beatles' admirers (there is something to be heard even through the squeals, and many parents must have heard the electric guitar's amplification this Christmas - how fresh and euphonious the ordinary guitars sound in the Beatles' version of "Till there was you" - but parents who are still managing to survive the decibels and, after copious repetitions over several months, still deriving some musical pleasure from the overbearing, do so because there is a good deal of variety - oh, so welcome in pop music - about what they sing. The autocratic but not by any means ungrammatical attitude to tonality (understandably, Peter Maxwell Davies' *O Magnus, Mystical* must then to Gertrude or Lewis or even Lionel Bart: the exhilarating and often quasi-instrumental vocal duetting, sometimes in scot or in falsetto, behind the melodic line; the melismas with altered vowels ("I saw her yesterday-se-ay") which these societies are old-established, mannered, and the discreet, sometimes subtle, varieties of instrumentation - a suspicion of piano or organ, a few bars of mouth-organ obbligato, an excursion on the clavichord or maracas; the translation of American blues into a dignified western idiom (in "Baby, it's you", the *Magyar 8/8 metre* too) into tough, sensitive Mersey-side...

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No.	Category	Year gain or loss
1	Electricals	
2	Food	
3	Textiles	
4	Chemicals	
5	Engineering	
6	Automotive	
7	Metals	
8	Oil	
9	Overseas	
10	Insurance	
11	Property	
12	Leisure	
13	Shipping	
14	Shoes and Leather	
15	Textiles	
16	Tobacco	
17	Banking	
18	Finance	
19	Land	
20	Food	
21	Chemicals	
22	Engineering	
23	Automotive	
24	Metals	
25	Oil	
26	Overseas	
27	Insurance	
28	Property	
29	Leisure	
30	Shipping	
31	Shoes and Leather	
32	Textiles	
33	Tobacco	
34	Banking	
35	Finance	
36	Land	
37	Food	
38	Chemicals	
39	Engineering	
40	Automotive	
41	Metals	
42	Oil	
43	Overseas	
44	Insurance	
45	Property	
46	Leisure	
47	Shipping	
48	Shoes and Leather	
49	Textiles	
50	Tobacco	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

## BRITISH FUNDS

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
2	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
3	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
4	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
5	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
6	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
7	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
8	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
9	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
10	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24

## SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
2	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
3	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
4	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
5	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
6	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
7	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
8	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
9	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
10	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24

## OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
2	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
3	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
4	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
5	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
6	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
7	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
8	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
9	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
10	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24

## UNLISTED

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
2	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
3	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
4	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
5	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
6	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
7	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
8	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
9	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
10	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24

## INDEX-UNITED

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
2	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
3	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
4	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
5	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
6	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
7	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
8	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
9	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
10	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24

## BREWERIES

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
2	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
3	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
4	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
5	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
6	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
7	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
8	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
9	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
10	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24

## BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1985	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
2	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
3	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
4	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
5	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
6	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
7	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
8	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
9	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24
10	10.24	9.78	British Fund	10.24	0.46	11.81	10.24

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Market firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 23. Dealings End, Jan 10. Contango Day, Jan 13. Settlement Day, Jan 20. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1985								1986								1987								1988								1989								1990								1991								1992								1993								1994								1995								1996								1997								1998								1999								2000								2001								2002								2003								2004								2005								2006								2007								2008								2009								2010								2011								2012								2013								2014								2015								2016								2017								2018								2019								2020								2021								2022								2023								2024								2025								2026								2027								2028								2029								2030																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E		High	Low



مركز من الاجل

WALL STREET

[illegible]

## Dow up in early trade

**New York (Agencies) -** The market was higher at midmorning as some new takeover developments sparked an otherwise slow post-holiday session yesterday.

**The Dow Jones average** which was up six points to 1,525 at one stage, later slipped to 1,523.74, up 4.59. Advancing issues led declining shares by eight-to-three on a turnover of 21.65 million shares.

Northern States Power (ex-dividend) led the actives, down 3/4 to 51 1/4.

● GAF Corporation yesterday announced a new offer of \$74 (\$51.9) a share in cash for the 90 per cent of Union Carbide stock it does not already own.

GAF previously bid \$68 for each of 48 million shares, or 80 per cent of Union Carbide's outstanding shares.

There was no comment from Union Carbide officials at the company's Danbury, Connecticut, headquarters.

Last week, Union Carbide countered that offer with a package bid that it valued at \$85 a share - \$20 in cash and \$65 in securities - for 35 per cent of its stock.

**GAF**, a speciality chemicals and building materials maker based in Wayne, New Jersey, said yesterday it had already secured financing for \$3.75 billion of the \$5.1 billion that its newest bid would cost.

**CANADIAN PRICES**

based in Wayne, New Jersey, said yesterday it had already secured financing for \$3.75 billion of the \$5.1 billion that its newest bid would cost.

**MONEY MARK**

Little activity was seen beyond day-to-day money and the short dates during the short Christmas Eve session up to midday.

Money was cheap, and operators scrambled to get it on board to tidy their positions

## MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Little activity was seen beyond day-to-day money and the short dates during the short Christmas Eve session up to midday.

Money was cheap, and operators scrambled to get it on board to tidy their positions across the holiday or even to the end of the year.

But little interest was expressed in the periods, where rates were almost unchanged from their overnight positions.

Base Rates %  
Clearing Banks 11 1/2  
Finance House 12  
Discount Market Loans %  
Overnight: High 11 Low 10

Week ending 10-2			
Treasury Bills (Discount %)			
Buying		Selling	
2 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	2 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
3 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	3 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)			

1 month	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
3 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
<b>Trade Bill (Discount %)</b>			
1 month	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 months	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
3 months	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 months	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
<b>Interbank (64)</b>			

Overnight open 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -10 close 11-9			
1 week	10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8 months	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
1 month	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	8 months	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
8 months	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	12 months	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Local Authority Deposits (%)			
2 days	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	7 days	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>

1 month	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 months	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

## COMMODITIES

Robusta coffee futures drifted back from initial highs to midmorning on Christmas Eve as operators withdrew, and prices were £10.00 to £1.00 a cune below the overnight close, dealers said.

The market rose initially on news that General Foods Corporation has increased the

retail price of its Maxwell House coffee, but then slipped on lack of interest.

Cocoa futures at midmorning on Tuesday were £1.00 to £5.00 a tonne weaker over the previous day's close, with light books squaring as the main feature on a shortened session ahead of Christmas.

Prices opened weaker in line with Monday's New York finish and were little changed to midmorning. Prices held in a narrow maximum range of £11 in all positions.

There was no fresh fundamental news to direct the market while currencies were also little changed.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The half-day session in currency markets on Christmas Eve was extremely quiet and featureless.

The pound also eased on the Continent, slipping from 3.5825 to 3.5750 in terms of the mark.

However, the dollar was able to pull back part of Monday's losses as a few operators covered their positions ahead of

The effective exchange rate index was down 0.3 to 77.9 at the final, midday calculation.

Sterling fluctuated within a very narrow band of \$1.4245 to \$1.42.70 before closing 35 points down against the dollar at £4255.

The dollar staged a modest rally despite the still bearish undercurrents with many operators continuing to look for an early reduction in the US discount rate.

### STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

[illegible]

### OTHER STERLING RATES

Malaysia	1,199.8-1,142.7	1,219.5-1,229.0
Thailand	2,084.4-2,029.2	2,117.0-2,110.9
Indonesia	1,535.4-1,536.9	1,496.4-1,493.2
Japan	14,544.0-14,533.0	14,511.0-14,511.0
China	9,700.0-7,800.0	9,355.5-9,355.5
United States	7,854.0-7,854.0	7,802.0-7,802.0
India	21,235.2-21,235.2	20,760.0-20,600.0
South Korea	1,131.0-1,131.0	1,100.4-1,101.4
Hong Kong	11,730.0-11,730.0	2,560.0-2,570.0
Italy	1,411.0-1,411.0	1,504.0-1,160.0
Switzerland	2,472.0-2,472.0	2,472.0-2,472.0
France	1,015.0-1,065.0	1,065.0-1,065.0
Germany	2,520.0-2,520.0	2,520.0-2,520.0
United Kingdom	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Spain	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Belgium (Congo)	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Portugal	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Australia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Sweden	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Denmark	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Norway	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Finland	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Ireland	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Poland	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Czech Republic	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Slovak Republic	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Hungary	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Romania	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Bulgaria	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Greece	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Turkey	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Israel	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Ukraine	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Belarus	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Latvia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Lithuania	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Estonia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Slovenia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Croatia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Serbia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Montenegro	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Albania	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Moldova	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Russia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Georgia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Armenia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Azerbaijan	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Kazakhstan	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Uzbekistan	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Tajikistan	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Kyrgyzstan	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
China	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
India	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
United States	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Canada	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Mexico	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Brazil	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Argentina	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Chile	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Peru	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Venezuela	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Colombia	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Ecuador	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Guatemala	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Honduras	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
El Salvador	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Nicaragua	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Panama	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Costa Rica	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Dominican Republic	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Haiti	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.0-1,070.0
Jamaica	1,070.0-1,070.0	1,070.

### DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Malaysia	1,199.8-1,142.7	1,219.5-1,229.0
Thailand	2,084.4-2,029.2	2,117.0-2,110.9
Indonesia	1,535.4-1,536.9	1,496.4-1,493.2
Japan	14,544.0-14,533.0	14,511.0-14,511.0
China	9,700.0-7,800.0	9,355.5-9,355.5
United States	7,854.0-7,854.0	7,802.0-7,802.0
India	21,235.2-21,235.2	20,760.0-20,600.0
South Korea	1,131.0-1,131.0	1,100.4-1,101.4
Hong Kong	11,730.0-11,730.0	2,560.0-2,570.0
Italy	1,411.0-1,411.0	1,504.0-1,160.0
Switzerland	2,472.0-2,472.0	2,472.0-2,472.0
France	1,015.0-1,065.0	1,065.0-1,065.0
Germany	2,520.0-2,520.0	2,520.0-2,520.0
United Kingdom	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Spain	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Belgium	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Portugal	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Australia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Canada	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Sweden	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Norway	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Denmark	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Finland	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Ireland	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Poland	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Czech Republic	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Slovak Republic	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Slovenia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Croatia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Serbia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Montenegro	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Albania	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Moldova	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Romania	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Bulgaria	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Greece	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Turkey	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Ukraine	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Belarus	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Lithuania	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Latvia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Estonia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Israel	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Uzbekistan	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Kazakhstan	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Kyrgyzstan	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Tajikistan	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Trinidad and Tobago	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Barbados	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Antigua and Barbuda	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Bahamas	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Jamaica	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Haiti	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Dominican Republic	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Cuba	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Venezuela	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Colombia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Ecuador	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Peru	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Brazil	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Argentina	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Chile	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Uruguay	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Paraguay	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Bolivia	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Costa Rica	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Panama	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Nicaragua	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Honduras	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
El Salvador	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0
Guatemala	1,015.0-1,015.0	1,015.0-1,015.0

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

The following prices relate to December 24

Month Ending				
Jan 86	88.30	88.43	88.58	100.25
Feb 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Mar 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Apr 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
May 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Jun 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Jul 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Aug 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Sep 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Oct 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Nov 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Dec 86	88.50	88.56	88.60	88.85
Previous day's total open interest 6780				
Three Month Eurodollar				
Jan 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Feb 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Mar 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Apr 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
May 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Jun 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Jul 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Aug 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Sep 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Oct 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Nov 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Dec 86	92.25	92.56	92.84	701.50
Previous day's total open interest 556				
Long GR				
Jan 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Feb 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Mar 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Apr 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
May 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Jun 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Jul 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Aug 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Sep 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Oct 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Nov 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Dec 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
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Long GR				
Jan 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
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Mar 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Apr 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
May 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Jun 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Jul 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Aug 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Sep 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Oct 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Nov 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Dec 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
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Mar 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Apr 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
May 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Jun 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Jul 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Aug 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Sep 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Oct 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Nov 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Dec 86	94-19	94-54	94-19	84.00
Previous day's total open interest 556				
Long GR				

**EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %**

Days	5-6-7	call	5-7-7
Days	5-6-7	1 month	6-8-8
Days	5-6-7	3 months	7-9-9
Days	5-6-7	6 months	8-10-10
Days	5-6-7	1 year	9-11-11
Days	5-6-7	call	9-8
Days	5-6-7	1 month	12-12-12
Days	5-6-7	3 months	13-13
Days	5-6-7	6 months	14-14
Days	5-6-7	1 year	15-15
Days	5-6-7	1 month	5-7-7
Days	5-6-7	3 months	6-8-8
Days	5-6-7	6 months	7-9-9
Days	5-6-7	1 year	8-10-10

**GOLD**

Supersend (per cent):  
 28.25-32.75 (2228-75-330.00)  
 Supersend (per cent):  
 30.00-75.00 (250-30-35)  
 Includes VAT

**ECOD**

Low Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV  
 Average rate for interest period 8  
 15 December, 1983,  
 (including 1.8121 per cent.

## INVESTMENT TRUST

1983					Gross					1983					Gross									
High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	Yld	P/E	
35	45	Adm	97	0	0.0	3.3	...	270	300	Greenstree	366	+8	2.2	0.8	...	305	167	Tf Natural Res	305	0	...	16.7	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0	3.2	...	270	300	Jeanston Inc	349	0	0.0	2.9	...	311	178	Tf North America	311	0	...	17.8	8.3	...
50	60	Adm	67	0	0.0																			

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]



# Manchester City survive late Liverpool onslaught to record unexpected win

If Ipswich Town failed to pull themselves out of their quicksand at the bottom, their victory at Coventry with a goal three minutes from time by D'Avray will have given their confidence something to feed on. It was only their second away win in the league since September.

Portsmouth fell 2-1 at home to south coast rivals Brighton for whom Connor scored the winner.

## Reading widen lead to 19 points

## Swansea's cause takes blow

not to be as Cardiff's persistence  
gained them the reward they  
deserved.

CARDIFF: L. Smith, W. Curtis, J. O'Brien, M. Ford,  
R. Stammers, J. Mellon, D. Curtis, M. Vaughan,  
R. Turner, M. Farthing, T. McKelvey.

SWANSEA CITY: M. Hughes, D. Hough, C.  
Sullivan, (sub: S. McCarthy), P. Price, A.  
Hartley, C. Herbert, M. Smith, T. Evans, M.  
R. Gibbons, A. Woodie, J. Davies.

Referee: R. Lewis (Great Bookham).

what's happening but, having realized they're still in with a job, they've got to go out and play for the club and themselves. There was no way of knowing that.

"It was the hardest game I've ever had mentally, what with all the travelling and thinking I've had to do over the last few days. The fact is I'm delighted they haven't thrown in the towel. That's the main thing."

For the first 35 minutes Swansoe looked capable of celebrating their reprieve in style. Hughes save a penalty from Muller after 26 minutes and with McHale, Melville and Gibbins going close, the latter seemed to be taking kindly to Swansoe's plight, although he did not let his own Cardiff persistence earn them the reward they deserved.

CAPDIN P: Llewellyn, W. Jones, D. Gilson, M. Ford, N. Shawcross, A. Martin, D. Corrynn, N. Vaughan, R. Williams, J. Davies, S. Thomas

SWANSEA CITY: M. Huggie, D. Hoogh, C. Sullivan, (sub: S. McCarthy), P. Pross, A. Smith, G. Roberts, B. Ticehurst, R. Gibbons, A. Woodie, I. Davies.

Referee: R. Lewis (Cardiff Bookham).



# Evergreen's hardy annual fells West Ham

**Drinkell the toast as  
he orders a double**

● Peter Lorimer, who was released recently by Leeds United, made his debut for Whitby Town yesterday when he scored in their 5-1 defeat against South Bank.

# Powerless Palace lose grip on Cork

● Peter Lorimer, who was released recently by Leeds United, made his debut for Whitby Town yesterday when he scored in their 5-1 defeat against South Bank.

# Everton's threat gathering pace

Cambridge United, who are sixth from the bottom, at Cambridge yesterday.

## Fourth division Chester go down to Cambridge

Atkins through for the equalizer after 70 minutes.

[illegible]











# Australia made to struggle as Indian spinners take control

## Rampant, beyond recall after line is broken

# KISS of life by Jones the coach

My players also had to accept a level of commitment

by. Green and Ashton are developing together. They are par

## Results

01 077 2016 B

**BASKETBALL:** Only 15 countries will contest the three regional places available for the world championships in Barcelona next year following the withdrawal of four

Wimbledon title, reached his first grand prix tournament quarter-final yesterday by beating Christo Steyn, of South Africa, 7-5, 6-7, 6-2 in the Victorian open championship.

## Boyle closes in on title

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